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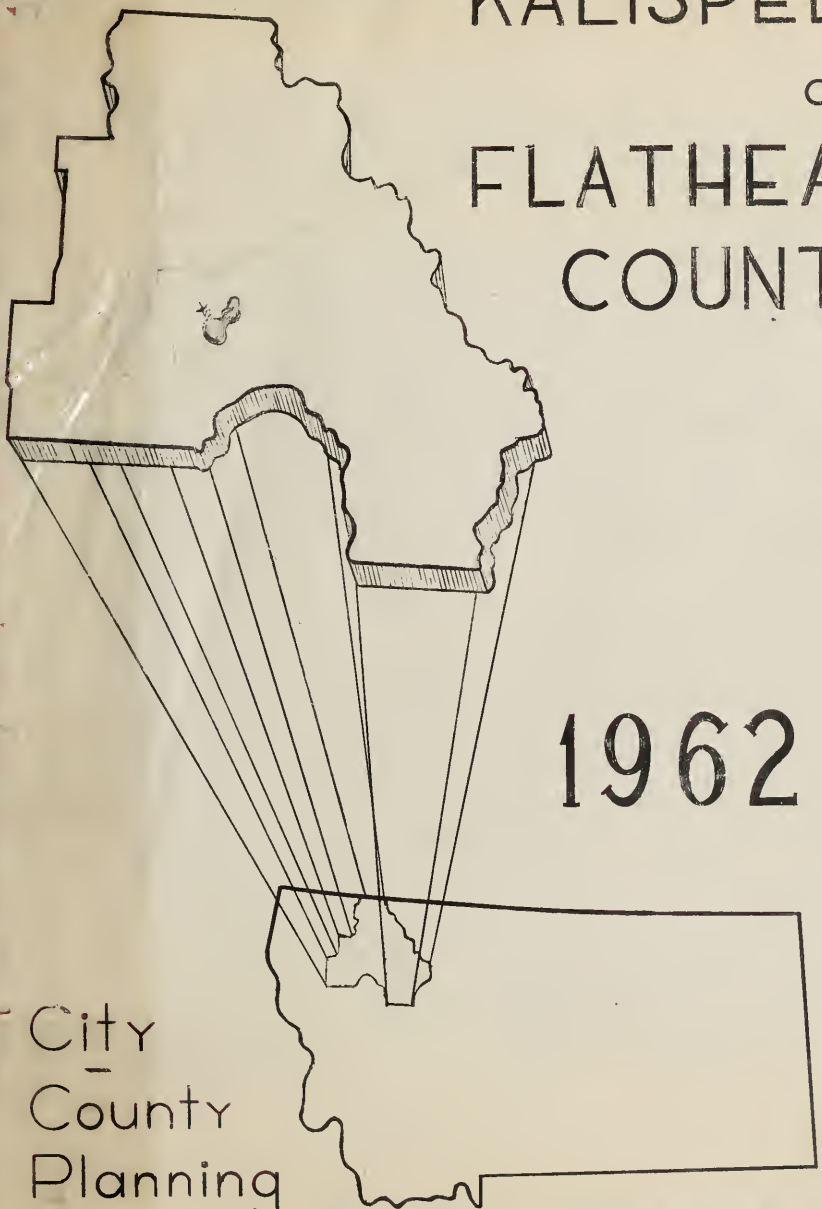
Ronald Thompson and Associates
Master plan
Kalispell and
Flathead County

DEC 1978

# MASTER PLAN

STATE DOCUMENTS

## KALISPELL and FLATHEAD COUNTY



## 1962

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KALISPELL-FLATHEAD COUNTY CITY-COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

Gentlemen:

We take pleasure in submitting to you at this time the completed Master Plan report for the City of Kalispell and the surrounding area.

The members of the City-County Planning Board over a two year period have considered the proposals that they now have incorporated in the Master Plan. We believe that a policy of planning for our future growth is a wise one and that the implementation of such a policy can contribute greatly to attractive community growth. It is the purpose of this plan to encourage and guide growth into the most economical and desirable channels so that our community will become an even more attractive place to work and to live.

The interest and cooperation of citizen groups, industry, business and leaders in local government, together with the continued efforts of the individual members of the City-County Planning Board, have made this project possible.

Your favorable consideration and adoption of this plan are respectfully recommended.

Yours truly,

Charles L. Hash

Charles L. Hash
President, Kalispell-Flathead
County-City Planning Board

January, 1962

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CITY AND REGIONAL PLANNING AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH
BUTTE, MONTANA
1961

# THE MASTER PLAN

for

# THE CITY OF KALISPELL

AND

# FLATHEAD COUNTY, MONTANA


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Project No. Montana P. 6.

Prepared Under Contract for the

MONTANA STATE PLANNING BOARD

and the

KALISPELL CITY-COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

by

Ronald Thompson and Associates
Butte, Montana

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## LABOR FORCE BY TYPE OF INDUSTRY

### Agriculture

According to the U. S. Bureau of the Census, there were 1,359 persons employed in agriculture in Flathead County in 1950, representing 13.2% of total reported employment in the County. By contrast, in the State of Montana, agriculture accounted for nearly 25% of reported employment in that year. Furthermore, during the preceding decade, the decline in agricultural employment was much more pronounced in Flathead County than in the State. In the County agricultural employment declined 15.9% from 1940 to 1950, compared with an 8.2% decline in the State.

Additional information on agricultural employment is available in the reports of the Census of Agriculture for 1954 and 1959. According to these sources, in Flathead County, farm labor including operators, declined from 2,049 in 1954 to 1,666 in 1959, for an 18.6% decline over the five year period, not much less than the 18.9% decrease in State farm labor over the same period. At this rate of decline, the 1950 agricultural employment of 1,359 would drop to 850 in Flathead County by 1960.

The numerical decline in agricultural employment in Flathead County from 1940 to 1950 reflects the migration of agricultural employees and operators from submarginal farms to more lucrative nonfarm employment. The continued decline after 1950 is not surprising in view of the trend toward mechanization of agriculture and consolidation of small farm units.

### Forestry and Fishing

U.S. Census figures reveal virtually no change in the number of persons employed in forestry and fishing in Flathead County from 1930 to 1950. From 1940 to 1950 total reported employment in these activities increased from 84 to 85, representing less than 1% of total reported employment in the County in 1950. However, the Flathead employment in forestry and fishing represented about 10% of the total Montana employment in this industry.

Mining

Mining employment in Flathead County totaled only 92 in 1940, less than 1% of total reported employment in the County, and had declined to 26 by 1950. The employment reports of the Montana Unemployment Compensation Commission, though not comparable with the data of the Census Bureau, indicate that there was no substantial change in total mining employment in the County from 1950 to 1960.

Construction

Construction employment in Flathead County increased 271% from 1940 to 1950, rising from 388 in 1940, or 5.5% of total employment, to over 1,400 in 1950, or 13.6% of total County employment. This sharp increase in construction employment resulted from the construction of Hungry Horse Dam, which at times brought even higher levels of construction employment than is indicated by the U.S. Census figures for 1950.

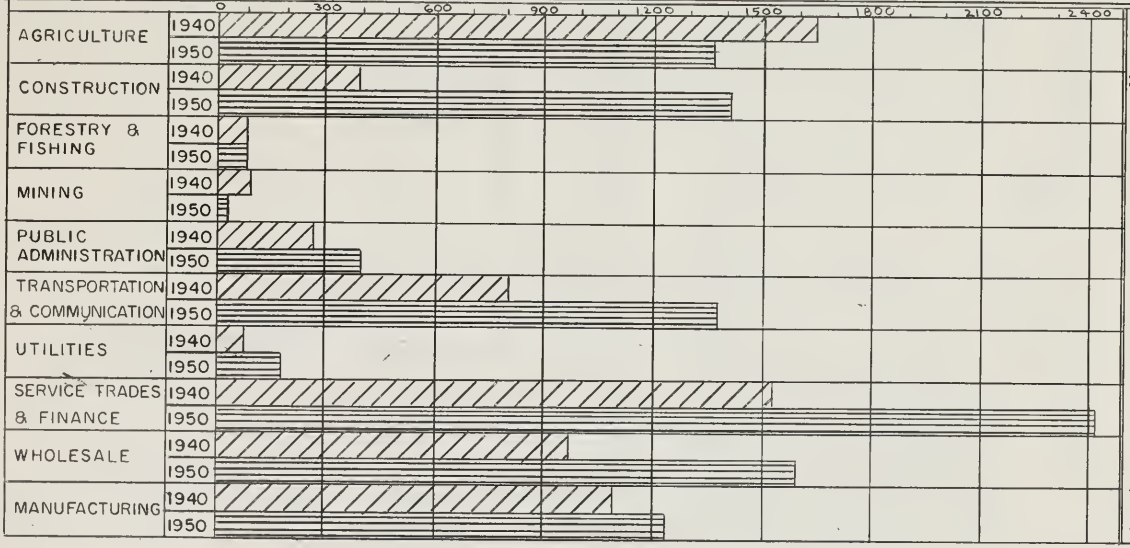
The completion of Hungry Horse Dam would have resulted in a dramatic decline in construction employment had this decline not been delayed by the commencement of construction of the Anaconda aluminum plant near Columbia Falls in 1952. This project served to maintain high levels of construction employment through 1955, after which rapid decline brought employment in this industry down to a normal level by 1960. According to the reports of the Montana Unemployment Compensation Commission, employment in this activity was 49.8% less in 1960 than in 1950. Thus, in 1960, construction employment represented 9.3% of total non-agricultural employment in Flathead County, compared with 10.5% in the State as a whole.

Manufacturing

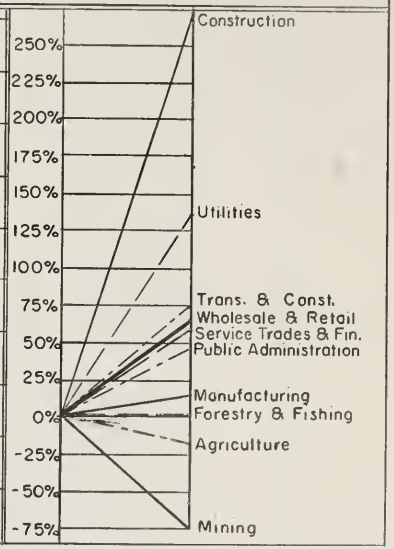
In Flathead County in 1940, 1,085 persons were employed in manufacturing, representing 15.4% of total County employment. By 1950 manufacturing employment in the County had increased 13.7%, to total 1,234, or 11.9% of all employment, considerably higher than the 8.5% of total State employment engaged in manufacturing in 1950. In the County, the majority of this employment was engaged in the manufacture of "furniture, lumber and wood

# EMPLOYMENT PATTERNS
# FLATHEAD COUNTY 1940-50

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of the Census.



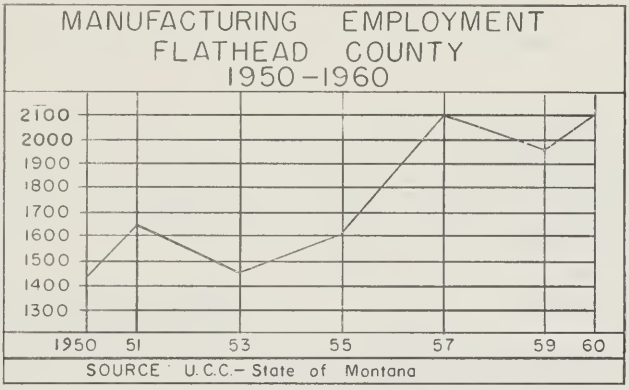

PERCENTAGE INCREASE OR DECREASE LABOR FORCE FLATHEAD COUNTY 1940-50



products", which accounted for 945 of those employed in manufacturing in 1950.

Manufacturing employment in the County has changed radically since 1950. An examination of Montana Unemployment Commission statistics for the years between 1950 and 1960 reveals the impact of the aluminum plant at Columbia Falls on the manufacturing industry in Flathead County.

As shown in the graph below, manufacturing employment




in the County increased almost 49% from 1950 to 1960, almost all of which can be attributed to the Columbia Falls aluminum plant, where employment has ranged from a high of over 1,600 in 1954 to an average of 600 in recent years.

Transportation, Communication, and Public Utilities

In 1940 and 1950 the U.S. Census reported transportation employment in three main categories: railroads, trucking service, and "other transportation". The Census figures for Flathead County are presented below:

| INDUSTRY | 1940 | 1950 | % Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| Railroads | 674 | 1,163 | 72.3 |
| Trucking Service | 58 | 85 | 46.6 |
| Other Transportation | 37 | 66 | 78.4 |
| Total | 769 | 1,314 | 70.9 |

Total transportation employment in Flathead County constituted 11% of total employment in 1940 and 13.0% in 1950. The number of persons employed in communications in the County almost doubled during this period, increasing from 33 in 1940 to 62 in 1950.

Employment in utilities in Flathead County increased from 75 to 176, or 135%, from 1940 to 1950, according to Bureau of the Census figures. However, these figures are not strictly comparable, because the Bureau of the Census expanded this category in 1950 to include employment in sanitary services, and no comparable figure for 1940 is provided. Nevertheless, it is felt that the increase does indicate a definite upward trend in utilities employment during the decade.

Comparable data for employment in these activities in 1960 are not available, but reports of the Montana Unemployment Compensation Commission indicate that total employment in transportation, communication, and public utilities in the County declined about 80% from 1950 to 1960.

Service Trade and Finance

From 1940 to 1950 there was a 59% increase in the number of persons employed in services and finance, insurance, and real estate in Flathead County. A total of 1,521 persons was employed in these activities in 1940, compared with 2,413 in 1950. This group of industries accounted for 22% of total reported employment in 1940 and 24% in 1950, compared with 19.6% in the State in the latter year. In 1950 this industry group was the largest single employer in Flathead County.

By combining more recent Unemployment Compensation Commission figures for finance, insurance, and real estate with service industries, an interesting trend may be observed, as shown in the table below:

| INDUSTRY | 1950 | 1960 | % CHANGE |
|---|---|---|---|
| Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate | 138 | 241 | 74.6 |
| Services | 654 | 592 | -9.5 |
| Total | 792 | 833 | 5.2 |

The preceding table shows that although total employment in finance, insurance, real estate, and service increased 5.2% from 1950 to 1960, employment in the finance segment increased 74.6% while employment in services declined 9.5%. These trends correspond with the statewide pattern of change in these industry groups. Finance, insurance, and real estate employment in the State increased 68.6% from 1950 to 1960, while service industry employment decreased 1.5%.

The greater decline in service industry employment in Flathead County has probably been caused by the reduction in construction employment and lower economic levels within the County.

Wholesale and Retail Trade

Employment in wholesale and retail trade increased significantly in Flathead County between 1940 and 1950, as shown in the following table.

| INDUSTRY | 1940 | 1950 | % CHANGE |
|---|---|---|---|
| Wholesale | 136 | 226 | 66.2 |
| Retail | 838 | 1,386 | 160.2 |
| Total | 974 | 1,612 | 65.5 |

In 1940 those employed in wholesale and retail trade represented approximately 14.0% of the County's total reported employment, increasing by 1950 to 16% of total employment, to become the second ranking industry group in the County on the basis of employment.

Montana Unemployment Compensation data indicate that wholesale and retail trade employment in the County in 1950 numbered 1,430, or 3.0% of total state employment in that industry. According to the same source, County employment in this industry had increased 19% by 1960, to a total of 1,702, or over 4% of the State employment in wholesale and retail trade.

## AGRICULTURE

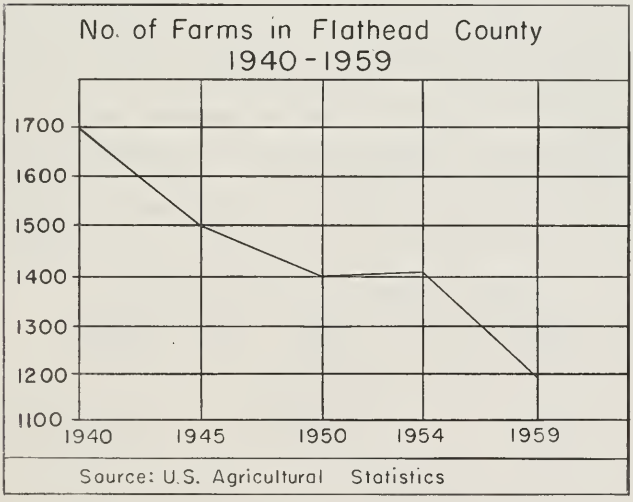
Extent

According to the U.S. Census, there were 1,701 farms in Flathead County in 1940, averaging 165 acres in size, compared with an average of 1,111 acres per farm in the State. The small size of the average farm in the County indicates the impracticality of these farm units as profitable business ventures.

This point is borne out by the U.S. Census of Agriculture for 1940, which showed an average farm income for Flathead County of $951, compared with $2,267 per farm in the State of Montana.

Since 1940 the number of farms in the County has decreased as the average size of farm has increased. By 1950, the number of farms had decreased from 1,701 to 1,418, the average size increased from 165 acres to 301 acres. During the same period the State average farm size increased from 1,111 to 1,859 acres. According to the last Census of Agriculture, the number of farms in the County declined to 1,184 by 1959.

Farm income in the County has increased since 1940 but is still far below the average for the State. In 1957 the average cash receipts per farm in Flathead County totaled $3,832 compared with $11,900 for farms in Montana. Among the 56 Montana counties Flathead ranked 54th in terms of this measure, with only Mineral and Lincoln counties reporting lower cash receipts per farm.




The main reason for the large number of small farms in the County lies in the migration of Midwest drought victims of the 1930's to the Flathead Valley. With improving economic conditions after 1940, a large number of these farmers, dis-satisfied with submarginal farm conditions, moved either to defense industries on the

West Coast or to more attractive employment in other urban areas. Another factor contributing to the small size of farms is the prevalence of "part-time farmers" in the area who look upon the farm as a method of reducing living expenditures and as a good place to rear a family.

In 1959 the agricultural economy of the County still showed the influence of part-time farming, although not to the extent of previous years. Of the County's farms in 1959 about 47% were between 10 and 49 acres in size and 7% between 200 and 499 acres. About 64% of the State's farms exceeded 500 acres, whereas in Flathead County only about 1% of the farms were of this size.

Of the 1184 farms in Flathead County in 1959, a total of 588, or over 49%, were non-commercial units, in that the operator either worked off the farm for 100 or more days, had income from other sources greater than the value of farm products sold, or was retired.

Irrigation

Of the total 507,227 acres in farm land in the County in 1959, 3.6%, or 18,500 acres, were irrigated compared with 2.9% of farm land in the State. According to the 1950 Census, 3.0% of the State's farm land was irrigated, compared with 3.4% in Flathead County. Between 1956 and 1957 in Flathead County there was an increase of 2,210 acres in the total number of acres of irrigated land harvested. During this period, while the number of acres harvested increased almost 15% and the value of crop production increased 3%, the value per acre decreased $6.27, or 10.3%.

IRRIGATED LAND IN FLATHEAD COUNTY

| | ACRES HARVESTED | % CHANGE | VALUE OF CROP PRODUCTION | % CHANGE | VALUE PER ACRE | % CHANGE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1956 | 14,840 | -- | $900,100 | -- | $60.65 | -- |
| 1957 | 17,050 | 14.9 | 927,100 | 3.0 | 54.38 | 10.3 |

Expansion of irrigation in the Flathead Valley is desirable from the point of view of diversification and stabilization of agriculture. In most cases this provides a higher standard of living, but in all probability the process will be retarded in Flathead County owing to the scarcity of investment capital among marginal agriculturists.

Another factor delaying extensive irrigation is the previously mentioned high number of non-commercial farmers who would be reluctant to put land to water due either to the required high capital expenditure or to the increased work burden called for by an irrigated plant.

Major Agricultural Products

Livestock - Less than 1% of the State's total number of cattle and calves, or 21,200 animals, were located in Flathead County in 1958. This figure may be compared with neighboring Lake County's total cattle and calf population of 50,300 in the same year. This disparity in county livestock population may be accounted for by the lack of feed in Flathead County, particularly the steady feed supply assured by intensive irrigation.

On the other hand, the County had 4.1% of the State's milk cows in 1958, although there was a numerical decline from 4,600 in 1956 to 4,000 in 1958, a decrease of 13%. This decrease in number of milk cows in the County may be attributed primarily to yearly variation in pasture and feed conditions. In fact, the number of milk cows in Flathead County has remained relatively stable over the past twenty years.

According to the Census of Agriculture, milk and cream worth over $1,072,000 was sold from the County's farms in 1959, compared to $736,900 in 1954, an increase of 45%. The milk and cream production in the County amounted to 8% of the State's total production in 1959, compared with 6.5% in 1954.

A steady increase has occurred in the number of sheep and lambs in the County in past years. From 1956 to 1958 the number increased 30%, but, even so, the total number of sheep and lambs in the County amounted to less than 1% of the State total in 1958.

Flathead County ranked third among Montana counties in the number of chickens in 1958 with a total of 75,400, and a steady increase has been experienced over recent years.

Slower expansion appears to have occurred in chicken and broiler sales, which totaled 37,500 in 1939 and in 1959 the amount was 47,491. This slow increase may be accelerated

in the next few years by the demand of the growing Pacific northwest markets. The availability of feed and other facilities for broiler production in the area provides considerable potential for growth in this industry.

Egg production in the County increased from 348,000 dozen in 1954 to 525,708 dozen in 1959. The 1959 production total represents just over 7% of the total egg production of the State. These eggs are marketed in the State and the Pacific northwest.

With 7,800 hogs in 1958, or 7.0% of the State's total, Flathead County ranked first among the 56 Montana counties. Some expansion of the hog enterprise could be developed in the County, particularly as the expanding west coast markets offer a freight and shipping advantage to Flathead County producers over Midwest cornbelt operators. Such other advantages as double deck shipping, less shrinkage in transit, and abundance of good feed in the area make hog production another potential growth industry.

Crops - Flathead County in 1959 ranked first in the 56 counties in the production of dry peas, with a total production in that year of 381,600 pounds.

Another major crop of the area is potatoes. Flathead County farmers produced 88,455 one hundred pound bags, or almost 8% of the State's total production, in 1959. This 1959 figure, however, was down 14.5% from the 1954 production of 103,553 one hundred pound bags.

Other crops of the area, although low in State ranking, were high in cash receipts. These crops included the following (based on 1957 Montana Department of Agriculture data): winter wheat, with a total production in bushels of 678,200 and a value of $1,227,500; hay, with a 1957 County production total of 60,300 tons and a value of $1,025,100; and oats and barley, with a combined 1957 production total of 1,172,400 bushels at a total value of $865,500.

Cherry production in the Flathead Valley is of statewide, if not regional, importance. It has been estimated by the Industrial Development Department of the Pacific Light and Power Company that sweet cherries provide an income of $500,000 annually to the Flathead area economy.

The 1959 Census of Agriculture states that 75,875 pounds of sweet cherries were harvested in Flathead County in that year, compared with 16,003 pounds in 1954, or a 374% increase over the five year period. During this same period the number of cherry trees increased from 1,148 to over 2,900.

The Flathead Lake Cherry Growers, Inc., a non-profit corporation, owns a receiving and packing warehouse in Kalispell. This organization states in its 1958 annual report that from 1952 to 1958 the average annual pack was 1,707,180 cherries processed, with an average income per pound of 22.59 cents. The average price remitted to growers was 15.63 cents per pound. According to this report, the sales of the group represent about 80% of the Flathead area crop, with about 80% of the group's sales going to Chicago or points east. It should be remembered that although almost all of the cherry orchards are in Lake County, the largest part of the crop is marketed through Flathead County.

The location of the cherry orchards and the large production of the fruit in the area is in the main due to the advantageous marketing enjoyed by the region because the climate of the high altitude delays ripening until several weeks after other producing areas have left the market.

The seasonal employment opportunities offered by the harvesting and picking is of exceptional importance to the area, and future increased planting and possible processing of the crop indicate this to be a potential growth industry in the area.

Apples are another relatively large fruit crop in Flathead County. In 1959, 3,273 bushels, or almost 7% of the State's total production, were produced in Flathead County. This total production in the County, however, was down considerably from the depression period production of over 33,000 bushels per year.

In general, continued expansion of cherry production is expected in coming years as well as, in the opinion of some agriculturists, moderate increases in the production of other small fruits, such as apples, boysenberries, raspberries, and strawberries.

Another seasonal industry in the Flathead area is the production of Christmas trees and related evergreen supplies. The State of Montana in 1955 shipped trees to 27 states and to Cuba. It has been estimated that the State can maintain an annual production of 3 million trees. Most of the State's production originates in Lincoln and Flathead counties. In 1959, Christmas tree production, from farm lots only, amounted to 229,551 trees in Flathead County, or slightly over 50% of the State's production.

Cash Receipts and Level of Living

Flathead County ranked 54th in cash receipts per farm in Montana in both 1956 and 1957. More than half of the County's total marketing receipts were from crops, whereas in the neighboring counties of Lake and Sanders, receipts from livestock and livestock products greatly exceeded those from crops.

Of the ten counties in the State's northwest district, seven in 1957 had cash receiptsper farm of less than $5,000. The ranking of the counties was in this order: Ravalli, Missoula, Lake, Sanders, Flathead, Mineral, and Lincoln. Lake County receipts were $4,604 and Sanders County, $3,941, while Flathead County's receipts were $3,823. In 1957 the cash receipts per Montana farm amounted to $11,900.

A decline occurred in cash receipts per Montana farm between 1956 and 1957, but in eight counties of the northwest district, including Flathead County, cash receipts increased. In Flathead County the increase in receipts per farm was $194 during this period.

Preliminary Census figures for 1959 show that 1,016 farms in the County reported telephones, compared with 942 five years earlier. This represented an increase of 7.9%. The number of home freezers in the County increased 44.4% from 649 in 1954 to 937 in 1959. The number of milking machines fell by 7.8% within the same period.

There were also significant increases in grain combines and pickup balers. From 1954 to 1959 the number of grain combines in the County increased 11.2% (from 418 to 465), while the increase in balers was 71.8% (from 156 to 268).

Motor trucks and tractors increased but the number of automobiles on farms decreased between 1954 and 1959. The number of motor trucks increased by 54, for a gain of 5.9%, the number of tractors increased by 220, and the number of automobiles decreased from 1,453 to 1,338, for a decline of 7.9%. Of course, a possible explanation for the decrease in farm automobiles and the increase in the number of motor trucks, while not balancing each other, is the new emphasis placed upon the motor truck as a family vehicle.

In 1954 there were 1.01 automobiles and 1 motor truck per farm. By 1959 these figures had changed to 1.13 and 1.28, respectively. Thus, on a per farm basis, the five year period showed greater ownership of such motorized items.

## SURVEY OF BUSINESS

### Retail Trade

Between 1948 and 1958 the total number of retail establishments in Flathead County reached a high of 461 in 1954 and then declined to 444 in 1958. This numerical decline in retail establishments can probably be attributed to the statewide down trend in economic activity that occurred in 1957 and 1958, together with the slackening of construction employment in the area upon completion of the Anaconda aluminum plant in Columbia Falls. One estimate of growth in retail establishments in Columbia Falls states that 19 additional retail businesses were located in that city between 1952 and 1955, whereas the City of Kalispell, during 1954-58, lost 47 retail establishments.

Retail sales in Flathead County in 1958 amounted to $40,836,000, compared with $40,975,000 in 1954, or a decline in actual dollar volume of $139,000. In the City of Kalispell during the same period there was a total loss of $1,447,000, or 5.2%, in retail sales. However, there was no decline in retail sales in the County as a whole, where total sales were almost identical in 1954 and 1958, because during the period the decline in Kalispell was offset by an increase of 25% in retail sales in the rest of the County, outside of Kalispell and Whitefish.

Although the Hungry Horse Dam and Anaconda aluminum construction projects brought an increased population and payroll into the County, it is believed that the major benefit from the influx of added income was experienced by the new trade outlets opened for the purpose in the immediate areas of Hungry Horse and Columbia Falls.

Retail Trade Attraction

One of the most significant questions that can be raised regarding retail trade is, what proportion of the population of an area is being served by the retail establishments of that area, and what proportion is going elsewhere for retail purchases? The following table presents an estimate of the extent to which Kalispell and Flathead County retailers are succeeding in attracting the retail trade of their respective populations.

In 1959 retail sales in food stores in Flathead County totaled $10,280,000. In the same year in Montana the average per capita expenditure in food stores was $283. Applying this State per capita figure to the total sales in Flathead County produces an estimate of the number of persons served by County food retailers: 36,325. This same procedure indicates that Kalispell food retailers served 24,028 persons, an increase of 2.4% over 1954.

The population of Kalispell increased 4.4% from 1950 to 1960, at which rate the population would have increased 2.2% from 1954 to 1959. Only two retail activities increased as much as 2.2% in terms of estimated numbers of people served during this period: food stores and gasoline service stations. However, total retail sales increased 3.3% in terms of numbers served, a 50% greater increase than the increase in city population. County population increased 4.7% from 1950 to 1960, or 2.35% in five years, compared with a 3.5% increase in total county retail sales.

The County population in 1960 was 32,691, while County retailers served 32,240 persons.

Kalispell retailers served 22,163 persons, while the Kalispell population was only 10,000 indicating that Kalispell retailers served many persons residing

## RETAIL ATTRACTION

### Kalispell and Flathead County

Based on: 1959 Sales Management Retail Sales estimates
1960 Census of Population

| | | Sales '000 dollars | State Average | People Served | Low | Gain or Loss |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Food Stores | County | 10,280 | $283 | 36,325 | | |
| | City | 6,800 | | 24,028 | | + 2.4% |
| Eating and Drinking | County | 3,605 | $132 | 27,310 | | |
| | City | 1,410 | | 10,681 | X | + 1.8% |
| General Merchandise | County | 3,732 | $119 | 31,361 | | |
| | City | 2,943 | | 24,731 | | + .7% |
| Apparel and Accessories | County | 1,956 | $ 59 | 33,152 | | |
| | City | 1,497 | | 25,372 | | + 1.7% |
| Furniture, Home Furnishings, Appliance Dealers | County | 2,121 | $ 53 | 40,019 | | + 1.3% |
| | City | 1,895 | | 35,754 | | |
| Automotive Group | County | 8,296 | $249 | 33,317 | | |
| | City | 7,090 | | 28,473 | | + 2.0% |
| Gasoline Service Stations | County | 4,294 | $117 | 36,700 | | |
| | City | 2,307 | | 19,717 | | + 2.6% |
| Lumber, Hardware Farm Equipment | County | 3,454 | $158 | 21,860 | | |
| | City | 1,959 | | 12,398 | | + 1.3% |
| Drug Stores | County | 1,209 | $ 38 | 31,815 | | |
| | City | 873 | | 22,973 | | - 27.4% |
| Total Sales | County | 38,947 | $1,208 | 32,240 | | + 3.5% |
| | City | 26,774 | | 22,163 | | + 3.3% |

Flathead County Population 32,691
Persons served by County Retailers 32,240
Loss to buy elsewhere 451

Persons served by Kalispell Retailers 22,163
Kalispell Population 10,000

County Residents served by Kal. Ret. 12,163

Flathead County Population 32,691
Persons Served by Kalispell Retailers 22,163, or 67.7% of County Population

outside the city. Furthermore, the 22,163 customers served by Kalispell retailers represented 67.7% of the total population of the County.

Wholesale Trade

The number of wholesaling establishments in Flathead County in 1958 was 59, representing an increase of 12 over 1954. Of these wholesale establishments, 48 were located within the Kalispell city limits. Over 25 million dollars worth of wholesale trade took place in Flathead County in 1958, of which 89% was in the City of Kalispell. Payrolls in wholesale trade in the County amounted to $1,546,000 in the same year, representing an 8.4% increase over 1954.

Service Trade

Flathead County experienced an increase in service establishments between 1948 and 1958, when the total number of such establishments rose from 158 to 252. During the same period the City of Kalispell lost 6 such enterprises, but the remainder of the County showed an increase from 81 to 114 establishments over the same ten year period. Most of these new service outlets are believed to be in the Hungry Horse-Columbia Falls area.

Service trade receipts in the County over the ten year period rose from $3,102,000 to $3,932,000, or 27%. The City of Kalispell, although losing 6 establishments, had an increase in receipts of 23%.

The most startling increase in service trade receipts occurred in the County area outside of Kalispell and Whitefish. The service receipts for this area increased from $897,000 to $1,309,000, or over 46%, from 1954 to 1958. This large increase can undoubtedly be attributed to the construction activity in the Hungry Horse-Columbia Falls area.

Manufacturing

Because data are not yet available from the latest Census of Manufacturers, it is necessary to rely on Census reports for 1947 and 1954. According to these data, from 1947 to 1954 the number of manufacturing concerns in Flathead County increased from 92 to 120.

accompanied by a rise of $1,409,000 in the value added by manufacturing. In 1954, of the 120 manufacturers in the County, 95 were engaged in producing lumber and wood products, eight in food and other products, seven in printing and publishing, and the remainder in miscellaneous industries. Two plants in the County reported 100 or more employees, both of which were lumber producers. It was after the publication of the 1954 Census that the Anaconda aluminum plant at Columbia Falls began operation, adding an average annual manufacturing employment of 600 to the County economy.

One of the main problems to be faced in the area's economy in the future is the seasonal nature of a major part of the manufacturing economy. Such industries as lumber and food products are vulnerable to employment variations caused by either rise and fall of the market or adverse weather conditions. Another problem to be faced in the area is the fluctuation in the number of saw mills in the County. The small mills, particularly during the 1956-1958 recession, have been especially susceptible to business failure. For example, the Montana Forest and Conservation Experimental Station has observed that the number of mills in the Valley, estimated at 104 in 1956, dropped to about 60 in 1957--a mortality of more than 40%. Even so, timber management plans for the four working circles in the Flathead National Forest observed in 1959 that the over-all sawmill capacity in the Flathead Valley was considerably in excess of the allowable cut and as a result there was heavy competition for sawtimber in the area.

One solution appears to lie in the encouragement of the use of lodgepole pine and other small timber. Another which suggests itself, since credit appears to be the critical factor in the stabilization of this segment of the industrial base, is the investigation of the provisions of the Small Business Administration for Small Business Investment Corporations.

Mining

In general terms Flathead County is ranked as fairly well mineralized but unexplored. Three mining districts are located in the County. The Star Meadow

or Lupfer District lies to the west of the Stillwater River in the northwestern part of the County. The Whitefish Mining District lies west of Whitefish. However, most of the recent mining activity has occurred in the Hog Heaven Mining District, where the Flathead Mine owned by the Anaconda Company, has in the past produced copper, lead, zinc, gold, arsenic, and bismuth. The Flathead Mine's main ore body was discovered about 1928. Production ceased in 1930 but the mine was reopened in 1934. In 1940 this mine produced ore valued at $833,000 with silver and lead predominating, although both gold and copper were also produced. The silver and copper ores were sent to the Anaconda Smelter and lead ore was shipped to East Helena. The Flathead Mine is now leased out by the Anaconda Company and 5 or 6 men are employed in development work and production. In 1960 about 1,000 tons of silver ore were shipped to the Washoe Smelter at Butte. In recent years no lead ore has been shipped.

The other operating mine in the Hog Heaven Mining District is the O. F. Martin mine. This operation is leased out by its owner, the Northern Pacific Railway Company. Possible products of the mine, which is now in a developing status, include gold, silver, lead, and zinc.

Past lack of exploration has retarded mineral development in the County but deposits of coal, silica, copper, and limestone are known to exist. Recent exploratory work has indicated the existence of additional silver, lead, and zinc ore bodies and the possibilities of tungsten and low grade clays are good.

The Flathead coal field covers about 150 square miles along the Flathead River in the northernmost part of the County. The coal in this field is of sub-bituminous quality and beds of about 3 feet in thickness are found in the vicinity of the Old Emerson mine. In 1942, 2,547 short tons of coal were produced in Flathead County, but there has been no recorded production since that time. Due to the availability of other fuels and the remoteness of these coal deposits, it is considered unlikely that development of the County's coal resources will become practicable in the foreseeable future.

The use of clays in the Flathead area in the past has been limited to the manufacture of soft structural clays into common brick. However, it is expected that there will be some investigation of clay deposits of the area for the purpose of locating clay resources with high alumina content. This appears likely on the basis of the recent testing of high alumina clays from Idaho in a pilot plant at Anaconda with a view to converting alumina from these clays to aluminum at the Columbia Falls plant.

The present freight rates for alumina from Corpus Christi, Texas, is a water-compelled rate amounting to about $10.50 per ton. This relatively low rate is possible because alumina is shipped west in boxcars which are available on the return trip east for carrying grain or lumber. Even so, however, freight charges could amount to 20% of the delivered cost of the alumina. Should the Anaconda alumina clay studies mature, the clay deposits of Flathead County will undoubtedly be subjected to careful investigation.

In the past year some oil leases have been secured on parts of the Flathead and Glacier View working circles and oil seepages have been reported from north of the Canadian border west of Glacier Park. It is believed that the oil leases within the County are for protective purposes only and little or no exploration is underway.

## NATURAL RESOURCES

### Forest

The Flathead National Forest has four working circles: Glacier View, Coram, Swan Valley, and Kalispell. The last named working circle has about 279,000 acres of national forest land, lying southwest and northwest of the City of Kalispell and west and north of Whitefish. Although the amount of national forest timber cut in this Circle was small before 1940, between 1940 and 1958 the cut more than doubled. At the same time, there has been increasing reliance on Government timber.

The first band mill in the Flathead Valley began operation at Somers in 1901 and other such mills followed.

When sawed railroad ties replaced hewed ties, the small portable mill came into its own, and the number of circular mills increased. During World War I about 100 circular and three band mills were in operation in the area.

For a time the small mill operator found a stable livelihood in the selling of ties to the Great Northern Railroad, but in recent years this market has diminished greatly. Larger operators in the area depended heavily on the milling of ponderosa pine, but this species has diminished to a small part of total timber cut in recent years.

In 1949 the Somers Lumber Company stopped production. The DeVoe Lumber Company undertook to cut dimensional material in the Somers Lumber Company buildings, but in 1959 the facilities were destroyed by fire. Mills at Olney, Stillwater Lake, and Whitefish were dismantled, and by the fall of 1957 most portable mills had closed because of the low market prices for lumber.

According to a Forest Service publication dated December 1, 1958, there were 57 sawmills, 1 veneer plant and 1 pole and post treating plant operating in Flathead County. Thus the area ranked second to the Libby area of Lincoln County in the number of forest product plants in western Montana.

The absence of adequate natural barriers has made fire a distinct hazard within the working circle. The need for raising main haul roads to adequate construction standard and the complete development of the remainder of the interior road system is vital to the five-year harvest plan proposed for the Circle.

The United States Forest Service, in its Timber Management Plan for the Kalispell Working Circle, states, "Timber resources of the working circle should be manufactured in the Flathead Valley to help stabilize local communities, but no restrictions will or can be placed on point of manufacture." It is in the Flathead Valley that most of the Kalispell Working Circle's forest products are manufactured. Smaller quantities are sent to the Kootenai Working Circle and even to Libby.

Water Resources

The water resources of Flathead County are impressive. V-shaped valleys lie between moderately sloping foothills, among which flow several streams of considerable length. The gradients of secondary tributaries are steeper than those of the main streams.

The Flathead River, a tributary of the Clark Fork of the Columbia River, flows southward into Flathead Lake; the Whitefish and Stillwater river join the Flathead near Kalispell. Flathead Lake is the third largest body of fresh water west of the Great Lakes and covers an area of about 189 square miles. In addition, Flathead County contains 150 other lakes of varying size.

High canyon walls and large river flow made Hungry Horse on the South Fork of the Flathead an excellent site for a dam. It was the development of the hydro-electric potential of the Hungry Horse site which made possible the construction of the Anaconda aluminum plant at Columbia Falls.

In addition to these extensive surface water resources, it has been suggested that a tremendous ground-water growth potential exists in Flathead County wherever considerable alluvial fill is present in the valleys.

## CONCLUSIONS

Although a moderate number of potential areas for expansion exist in Flathead County, it should be recognized that the County's potential for growth is not great at the present time and that failure to develop vigorously what potential does exist could conceivably result in a decline in population, economic activity, and per capita income. It should be remembered that George Sundborg's population projection in 1945 anticipated a 1955 population of 38,500 in Flathead County provided that during the decade there was full development of the growth potentials in mining, manufacturing, food, irrigation, tourism, and forest industries.* Yet by 1960 the actual population of the County was not 38,500 but something less than 33,000. There has already been considerable out-migration of persons in the working ages, a tide that must be stemmed before any growth can reasonably be anticipated.

The major possibilities for expansion in the Flathead area appear to lie in the activities of agriculture, mining, wood products, and tourism.

### Agriculture

Agricultural production is potentially expandable through increased use of irrigation, but comprehensive development of this potential appears unlikely in the near future owing to the marginal and part-time character of much of the agricultural industry in the County. If the potential of irrigation is developed, some expansion of the livestock industry may be expected to follow, to take advantage of the steady feed supply thus assured. Some expansion is anticipated in certain crops, notably cherries and other small fruits, but this growth will be offset to some extent by agricultural decline associated with decreasing number of farms and increasing size of average holdings. Growth in the production of poultry, poultry products, and hogs also seems to be in the picture.

*"The Economic Base for Power Markets in Flathead County Montana." Bonneville Power Administration, Division of Industrial and Resources Development, 1945.

Mining

Mining activity in the County is negligible at present, and, because of the incompleteness of mineral exploration, the mining potential of the area is an unknown quantity. Successful outcomes of investigations now in progress would result in substantial increases in current mining activity but probably would not directly involve large numbers of people.

Lumbering and Wood Products

Timber Management plans for the Flathead area have highlighted the need for improved access roads to increase both fire control and harvest, but there is little that the local community can do to improve this situation. Practically all of the present timber harvest is already being manufactured locally. The principal role of the local community appears to lie in two areas: (1) the encouragement of the development of industries for the more effective utilization of small timber, and (2) the investigation of the provisions of the Small Business Administration as a source of credit for the highly unstable small-scale timber industry.

Tourism

George Sundborg in 1945 observed that no section of the United States is as "richly endowed with scenic and recreational attractions" as northwestern Montana. But he also noted that development of the maximum potential of the tourist industry in the Flathead Valley would depend upon the success with which certain prerequisites were met. Fifteen years later these suggestions still merit attention:

a. preserve, protect, and enhance scenic attractions and provide access to them
b. preserve and increase fish and game resources
c. provide special services for sportsmen (guiding, handling trophies, etc.)
d. provide more, better, and more attractive tourist accommodations (particularly lodges, hotels, and eating places)
e. join with the State and the rest of the Pacific Northwest in a program of advertising and promotion
f. develop winter sports facilities
g. expand and develop golf courses
h. provide better swimming and boating facilities

i. preserve, mark, and develop historical sites.
j. arrange special events as tourist attractions
k. preserve and enhance the spirit of "western hospitality" and provide tourist information facilities

It is believed that tourism, though already an important part of the County economy, is capable of considerable expansion. Though such a survey is beyond the scope of the present study, it is strongly recommended that a careful, systematic, and up-to-date inventory be made of the tourist facilities of the area, from the standpoint of numerical adequacy, quality, intrinsic interest, and drawing power, which could become the basis for a long-term plan for the expansion of tourism. It is likely, for instance, that improvement of hotel accommodations and convention facilities would emerge as major needs, but priorities cannot be assigned to these or other needs in the absence of a comprehensive, factually-based plan. Funds becoming available under the recent Depressed Areas Bill might find a profitable use to this end of developing tourism, but any such project should be undertaken only as a part of a soundly conceived long-range plan.

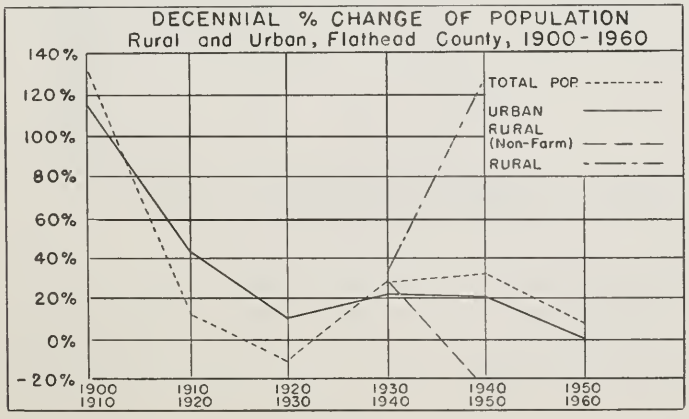
## POPULATION BASE ANALYSIS

### Numbers of People

Flathead County comprises a land area of 5,177 square miles, which in 1960, had a population density of 6.4 persons per square mile. This represented a slight increase over its 6.1 persons per square mile in 1950, and was a considerably greater density than the 4.6 persons for each square mile in the State of Montana.

At the time of the first census, in 1900, there were 7,949 persons living in Flathead County. During the following decade the County saw its most rapid period of growth, the population increasing by 136.3%, to total 18,785. The decade of the 1910's brought a more moderate increase of 15.5%, while the 1920 decade saw an 11.5% decline, so that by 1930 the County population was about the same size as in 1910. From 1930 to 1940 and from 1940 to 1950 there were increases of 1/4 and 1/3 per decade, but from 1950 to 1960 an increase of less than 5%. The 1960 population of the county was not quite 33,000.

The population of the county is not highly urbanized. Percentage-wise, the population was most urban in 1930, when over 45% of the county population resided in urban places, but this high percentage was as much the result of rural decline over the preceding decade as of urban growth. In those decades when county population increase has been greatest, urban increase has fallen below the total county rate. When county population has decreased or increased slightly, the urban rate has been higher. This means that the greatest changes have occurred in the rural part of the population.



From 1930 to 1960 the urban population declined from about 45% of the county total to less than 40%. From 1930 to 1950 the rural non-farm population increased from 23% to over 40% of the total, while the rural farm population declined from 30% to 17% of the total.

Rural farm and rural non-farm totals are not available in the 1960 Census. Instead, the rural population is divided into those living in places of 1,000-2,500 population and "other rural". It is possible to assemble comparable 1950 data:

| | FLATHEAD COUNTY | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1950 | 1960 | % Change |
| Urban | 13,005 | 13,116 | 0.8 |
| Rural | 18,490 | 19,849 | 7.3 |
| 1,000-2,500 | 1,232* | 2,132* | 73.0 |
| Other rural | 17,258 | 17,717 | 2.7 |
| Total | 31,495 | 32,965 | 4.7 |

*Consists of Columbia Falls only, excluding Hungry Horse Village, which contained less than 1,000 persons in 1960.

Thus, the only major change occurred in the 1,000-2,500 rural category, which consisted of Columbia Falls.

From 1950 to 1960 the population of the county increased from 31,495 to 32,965, a gain of 1,470 persons, or 4.7%. The distribution of this increase is shown in the table below:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 32,965 | Flathead County Total, 1960 |
| | 31,495 | Flathead County Total, 1950 |
| | 1,470 | Flathead Increase, 1950-1960 |
| 1) | -414 | Kalispell Increase, 1950-1960 |
| | 1,056 | |
| 2) | -900 | Columbia Falls Increase, 1950-1960 |
| | 156 | |
| 3) | +303 | Whitefish Decrease, 1950-1960 |
| 4) | 459 | Increase in County outside Kalispell, Columbia Falls, and Whitefish, 1950-1960. |

Of these four segments of the county population, the greatest numerical change occurred in the smallest unit, the community of Columbia Falls. Had Columbia Falls not increased over the decade, the total county increase would have been only 570, or 1.8%.

Age and Sex

The age and sex composition of the populations of Flathead County, Kalispell, and Columbia Falls is shown overleaf. Children under 15 years of age predominate in all three populations, especially in Columbia Falls, where this age group represented 38% of the total population in 1960. On the other hand, persons 55 years of age and over made up a small part of the Columbia Falls population, while a fairly large segment of the County and Kalispell populations were older persons.

Particularly significant have been certain changes in the age composition during the 1950 decade. In Flathead County the total population increased 1,470 from 1950 to 1960. The distribution of this increase by age groups is shown below:

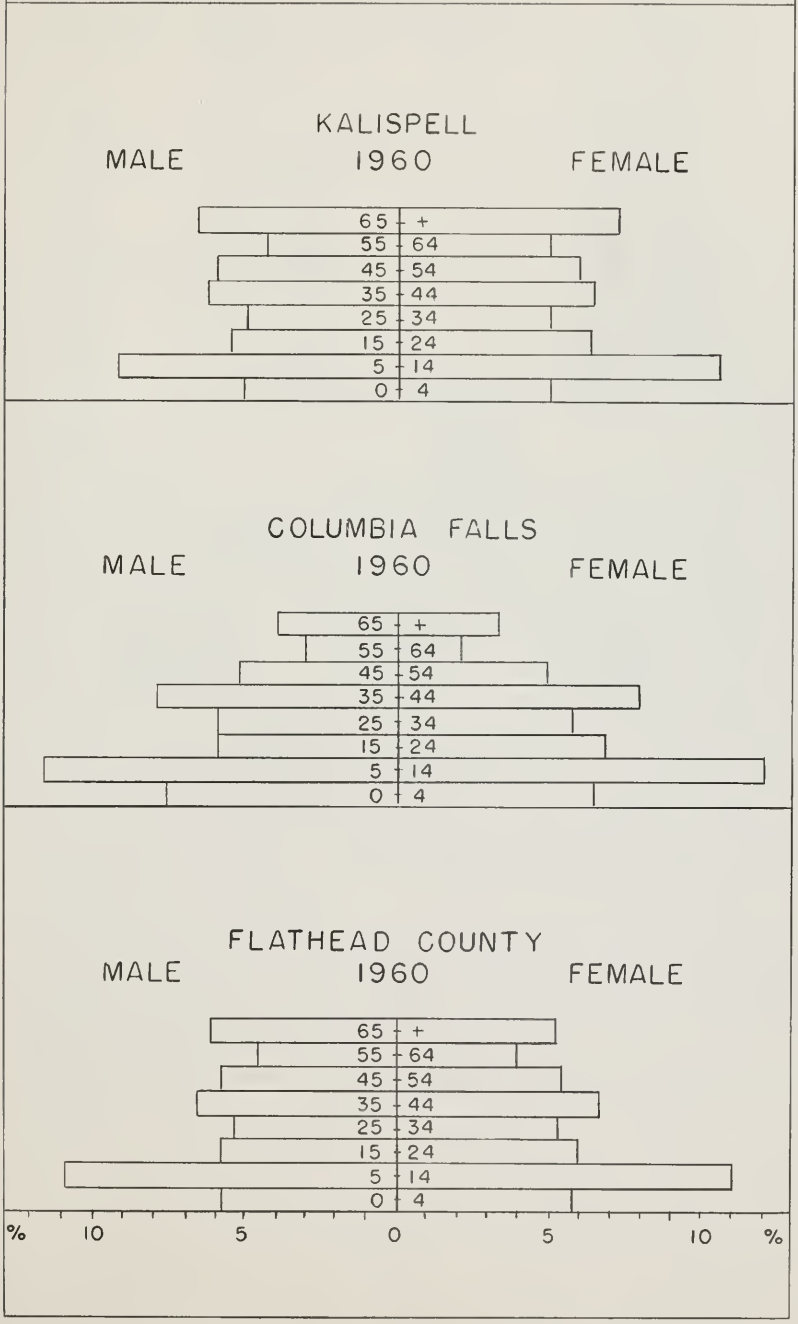
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| under 20 | +2,064 | increase |
| 65 and over | +1,012 | increase |
| | 3,076 | |
| 20-64 | -1,606 | decrease |
| | 1,470 | total County increase |

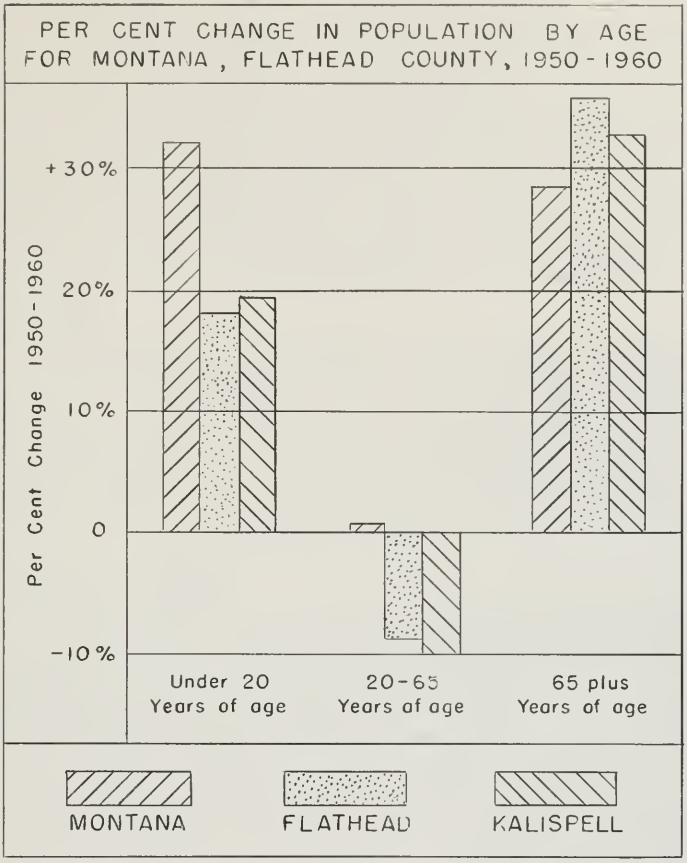
These figures show that there was a decrease in numbers of persons in the working ages (20-64) and that the population of the County would have declined had it not been for great increases in the dependent ages (under 20 and 65 and over). The same change occurred in Kalispell, where the total population change was an increase of 414, while the working age group declined 551, the population under 20 increased 614, and the aged increased 357. Strictly comparable data are not available for Columbia Falls, but apparently the same change occurred in less extreme form:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| under 15 | +396 | |
| 15-64 | +442 | |
| 65 & over | + 62 | |
| | 900 | total population increase |

Thus, although there was no numerical decline in the working age population, the dependent population increased from 40% to 45% of the total and the working population declined from 60% to 55% of the total.

# POPULATION OF FLATHEAD COUNTY
# KALISPELL & COLUMBIA FALLS
# BY AGE & SEX
# 1960






The chart above depicts changes in the age composition of Montana, Flathead County, and Kalispell from 1950 to 1960. In all three cases, the greatest increase occurred in the dependant populations, and although the working age population of the State did not decline, as in Kalispell and Flathead County, the increase was very slight.

These relative and absolute declines in the working populations of Flathead County, Kalispell, and Columbia Falls, suggest a rather considerable out migration of persons in the employable ages and indicate that had it not been for the construction of the Anaconda aluminum plant near Columbia Falls in the mid-1950's, the 1960 condition of Flathead County would have been bleak, indeed.

The sex ratio (number of males per 100 females) in Flathead County was 100.5 in 1960, compared with 103.8 for the State. The sex ratio in Columbia Falls was about the same as in the County (100.9), while the Kalispell sex ratio was much lower; 90.5 in 1960, down from 98.7 in 1950. There were fewer males in Kalispell in 1960 than in 1950 (decline of 16), while females in the city increased 430. This serves as further confirmation of the out-migration of job seekers from Kalispell, for such a migration would be expected to consist predominantly of young males.

Fertility

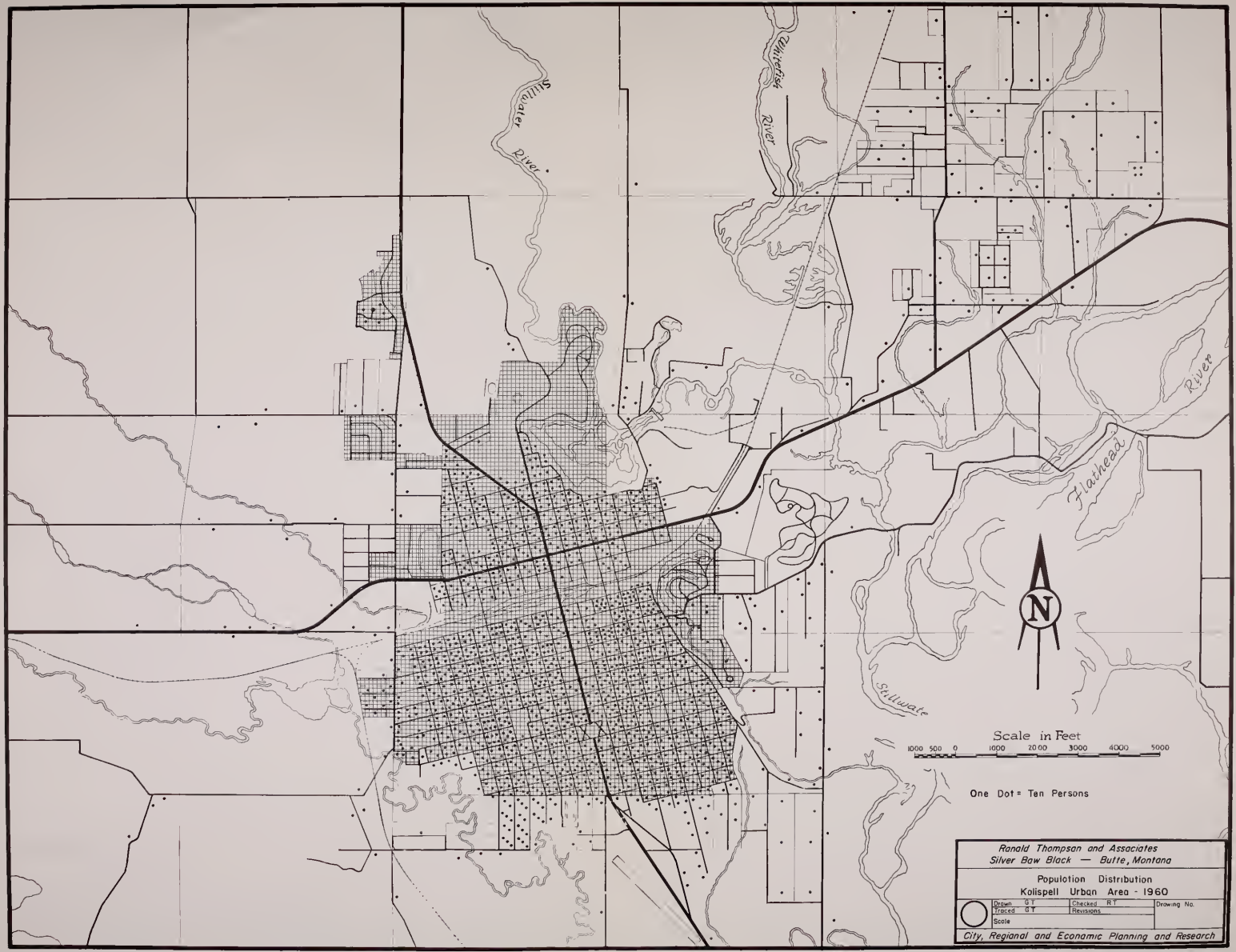
The fertility ratio (number of children under 5 years of age per 1,000 females aged 15-44) in Flathead County in 1960 was 630.5. The fertility ratio for Columbia Falls was considerably greater, 670.5, up from 659.0 in 1950, while that for Kalispell was less, 551.6, up from 477.2 in 1950. Except for Columbia Falls, all of these fertility ratios were below that of the State, which was 652.0 in 1960.

Population Projection

In the absence of any clear indications of economic expansion in Flathead County, population projections must be tested principally on the basis of the probability of future out-migration of population in the employable ages. Data for 1950 and 1960 have shown considerable evidence of such out-migration from the county particularly in the case of Kalispell. The county population increased 4.7% from 1950 to 1960, but most of this growth occurred in Columbia Falls. Industrial expansion, instead of creating general growth, has simply counter-balanced decline in other areas of the economy. Further stabilization of population will probably depend upon vigorous development of those areas of the economy which are potentially expandable.

From 1950 to 1960, despite the opening of the Anaconda aluminum plant, the two largest segments of the county population experienced very little growth. The urban population, numbering 13,116 in 1960, had increased only 0.8%. The rural population outside Columbia Falls, numbering 17,717 in 1960, had increased only 2.7%. The smallest segment, Columbia Falls, had increased the most, 73.0%.

The following projections are based upon the assumption that there will be further increase at Columbia Falls from the stimulus of the aluminum industry; that further decline at


Stillwater River
Whitefish River
Flathead River
Stillwater
N
Scale in Feet
1000 500 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000
One Dot = Ten Persons
Ronald Thompson and Associates
Silver Bow Block — Butte, Montana
Population Distribution
Kolispell Urban Area - 1960
Drawn G T
Traced G T
Checked R T
Revisions
Drawing No.
Scale
City, Regional and Economic Planning and Research

Whitefish will be offset by slight increases in the population of Kalispell; that slight increases in the rural nonfarm population will offset declines in rural farm population; and that, generally incipient decline will be held in check by some expansion of tourism, forest industries, and cherry production. Thus, a concerted effort to stem the tide of decline and out-migration could produce the following population changes over the next two decades:

| | 1960 | Projected Decennial Change | 1970 | 1980 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Kalispell | 10,151 | +5% | 10,650 | 11,100 |
| Whitefish | 2,965 | -5% | 2,800 | 2,650 |
| Columbia Falls | 2,132 | +15% | 2,450 | 2,800 |
| Other rural | 17,717 | +2% | 18,000 | 18,350 |
| Total County | 32,965 | +3% | 33,900 | 34,900 |

## PARKS AND RECREATION

The provision of park and recreational areas has always been considered an important part of community development. Some of these parks and recreational areas which were established early in the history of the United States still remain in our eastern cities.

Parks and recreational areas have become increasingly important in the past few decades, due in the main to two reasons: first, the mass migration of the population to urban areas, especially since the end of World War II; and second, the increasing amount of leisure time that the people in urban centers have today. These trends are still continuing, therefore, the ratio of land available for recreational purposes and the recreational facilities which are available to the total population must also continue to increase.

One of the factors involved in city growth is that great strides are being made in the development of farm labor-saving machinery, this needing fewer farm workers. Recent trends have shown a large migration of farm laborers and farm people into the urban communities in search of work. This immigration alone has caused a large increase in the population of the urban communities. As the population continues to increase, the parks and recreational areas must also be increased in proportion to the population.

The second factor, that of increased leisure time, has been brought about because of the shortened work week and also because of the technological advances which have been made in labor saving devices in the home and factory. The forty-hour work week, standard for some time, may be reduced eventually to a possible thirty-two hour work week, thus increasing the leisure time of the people. Further, the washing machines, dryers, and ironers and other labor-saving appliances now on the market for use in the home, give the housewife a larger amount of leisure time. Children attending school also have a large amount of leisure time. Attending school for possibly six hours a day, there is ample time left for recreational purposes.

Therefore, as our society continues to advance technologically and as more leisure time is available to all age groups, the parks and recreational plan for any community becomes increasingly important.

In the past there has been some attempt to relate the lack of recreational facilities to a rise in delinquency. This has been proven to be not entirely true, although, where recreational facilities and areas are provided, and the children can use their leisure time toward positive recreational activities, they do not tend to engage in destructive activities.

There is also economic value in a good park and recreational program. For example, industrialists looking for a new location not only look at the physical aspects of the plant site, but also are interested in the community's school plants and the recreational facilities. They have learned from experience that workers who are living in a community which offers all the advantages for good living also make better and more productive workers.

Lastly, the Kalispell area has yet to realize the full economic value of tourism. Whitefish has made some progress in this direction with the ski resort. This could also be possible in Kalispell with the development of a regional park. The close proximity of Glacier Park and also the excellent lake and river fishing places the Kalispell area in an ideal location for the full development of a tourist industry. It is suggested that the estimated 96 acres in Lawrence Park might be developed as a regional park in cooperation with the State Parks Department.

In summary, therefore, it is very important that serious thought be given to the parks and recreational program as it exists today and the needs of that program for the future.

Standards for Recreation

The standards for recreation which are used most generally are those established by the National Recreation Association and these standards are accepted by most communities throughout the United States. The standards are taken to be minimum rather than optimum and are listed below:

| | |
|---|---|
| Urban Parks and Playgrounds | 10 acres per 1,000 population |
| Playfield and Playground acreage | 1 acre per 800 population |
| Softball fields | 1 per 3,000 population |
| Baseball fields | 1 per 6,000 population |

| | |
|---|---|
| Tennis Courts | 1 per 2,000 population |
| Golf Holes | 1 per 3,000 population |
| Recreation Buildings | 1 per 20,000 population |
| Auditoria (Capacity 1,000) | 1 per 20,000 population |
| Social Rooms | 1 per 10,000 population |
| Reading and Library Rooms | 1 per 10,000 population |
| Game Rooms | 1 per 10,000 population |
| Club Rooms | 1 per 4,000 population |
| Indoor Swimming Pools | 1 per 50,000 population |

It will be noted that the outdoor swimming pool has not been included in the above list. This has been intentionally eliminated because of the apparent unsuitability of the outdoor swimming pool in this climate. The very short summer season does not allow enough use of an outdoor swimming pool to justify its maintenance and initial cost.

The first step in establishing a parks and recreation program is to divide the area into relatively small units. The community is so large and complex in its structure and function that it would be impossible to study it as a whole. These units are referred to as neighborhoods and the community is essentially made up of a series of neighborhoods.

The neighborhood generally should not have an area greater than one square mile with the school and recreational area at the center. The school and the recreational area should also be the cultural and social center of the neighborhood. The neighborhood is delimited by natural and man-made boundaries, such as sharp changes in topography, rivers, streams, and by major thoroughfares or highways. This method will be employed in the parks and recreation report, and the division of the community into areas is shown on the facing map.

Type of Park

There are several types of parks. First is the neighborhood playground which is designed to serve the neighborhood unit described above. The second is the sub-community playfield, which is designed to serve a number of neighborhoods. These are the two most important units in building a parks and recreation program.

Other parks are the passive recreational areas which serve to beautify the city, the municipal parks designed to serve the total urban community and the regional parks to serve a number of communities in a given region.

Neighborhood Playgrounds

The urban area is essentially a series of neighborhoods and the basic unit in the parks and recreation program is the neighborhood playground. In many areas the neighborhood playground becomes even more important when cities have taken advantage of the park-school concept, where the park and school become the focal point of the neighborhood.

The minimum area needed for playgrounds, based on population, is as follows:

| Population | Acres |
|---|---|
| 2,000 | 3.5 |
| 3,000 | 4.0 |
| 4,000 | 5.0 |
| 5,000 | 6.0 |

Although the neighborhood playground is intended for children of grade school age it should also provide areas for pre-school children and adults. To accomplish this the National Recreation Association recommends that the following features be incorporated into a typical neighborhood playground:

1. Corner for pre-school children
2. Apparatus area for older children
3. Open space for informal play
4. Open area for court games, tennis, shuffle board, and similar outdoor games
5. Space for field games, such as football
6. Area for story telling, crafts, and dramatics
7. Shelter houses
8. Wading pools (where practical and supervised)
9. Corner for table games, and other activities for older people
10. Landscape features

The equipment of a typical playground should include the following:

1. Croquet court or multi-purpose area
2. Tennis court
3. Two sets of swings
4. One horse-shoe pit
5. One sand box
6. Benches
7. Tables
8. Equipment for games

As will be noted from the above list the playground should provide recreational facilities for the whole neighborhood and for all age groups. The neighborhood playground thus becomes the focal point for such activity. The provision of shelters and adult recreation facilities encourages the parents to accompany the children to the playground.

Indoor facilities are also an important part of the program, especially in Montana where inclement weather hampers outdoor recreational activities for a major part of the year. It is suggested that the following indoor facilities could be provided in the elementary school and made available to the public after school hours:

1. Gymnasium with spectator seating
2. Auditorium or assembly room with stage
3. Multi-purpose room
4. Room for informal reading and table games
5. Locker, storage, showers, and toilet facilities
6. Storage space and staff office

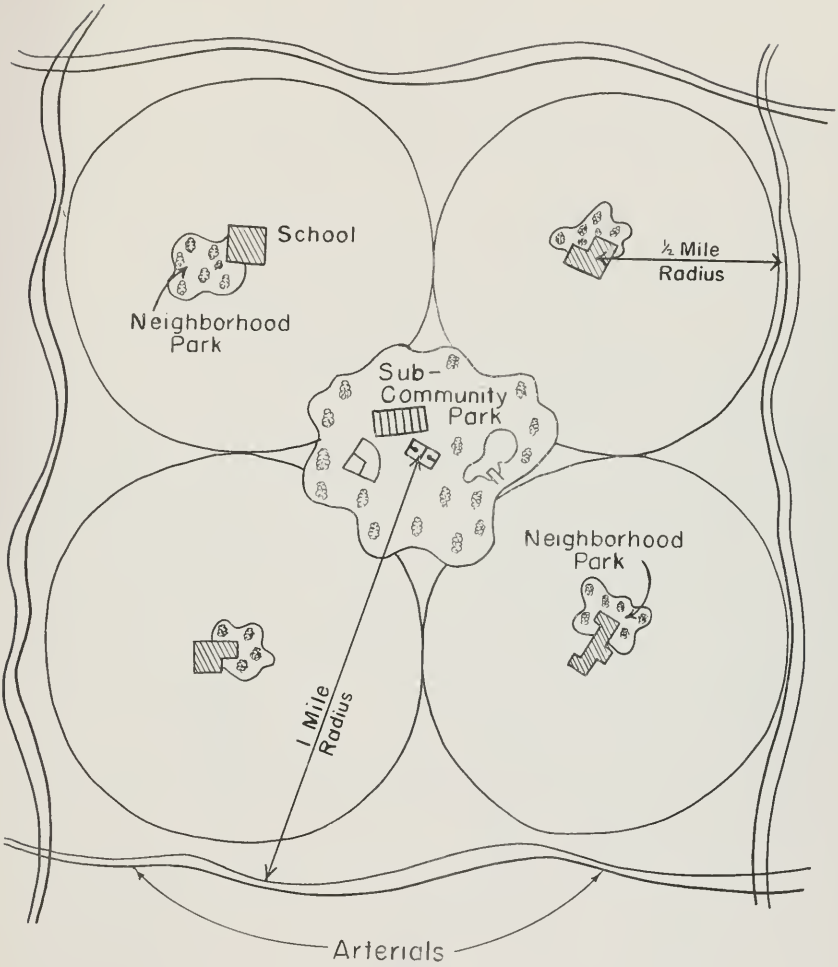
The best method of accomplishing this is to close off the classroom areas which are not needed for recreation after school hours.

Sub-community Playfield

The second type of unit is the sub-community playfield. The playground is primarily designed to serve the immediate neighborhood, while the playfield is designed to serve the sub-community and provide recreational opportunities for those persons who are able to travel more than 1 mile to the area. The sub-community playfield should not be a substitute for a playground. The playground is primarily designed to serve children below the age of 15 while the playfield is intended to serve persons over the age of 15.

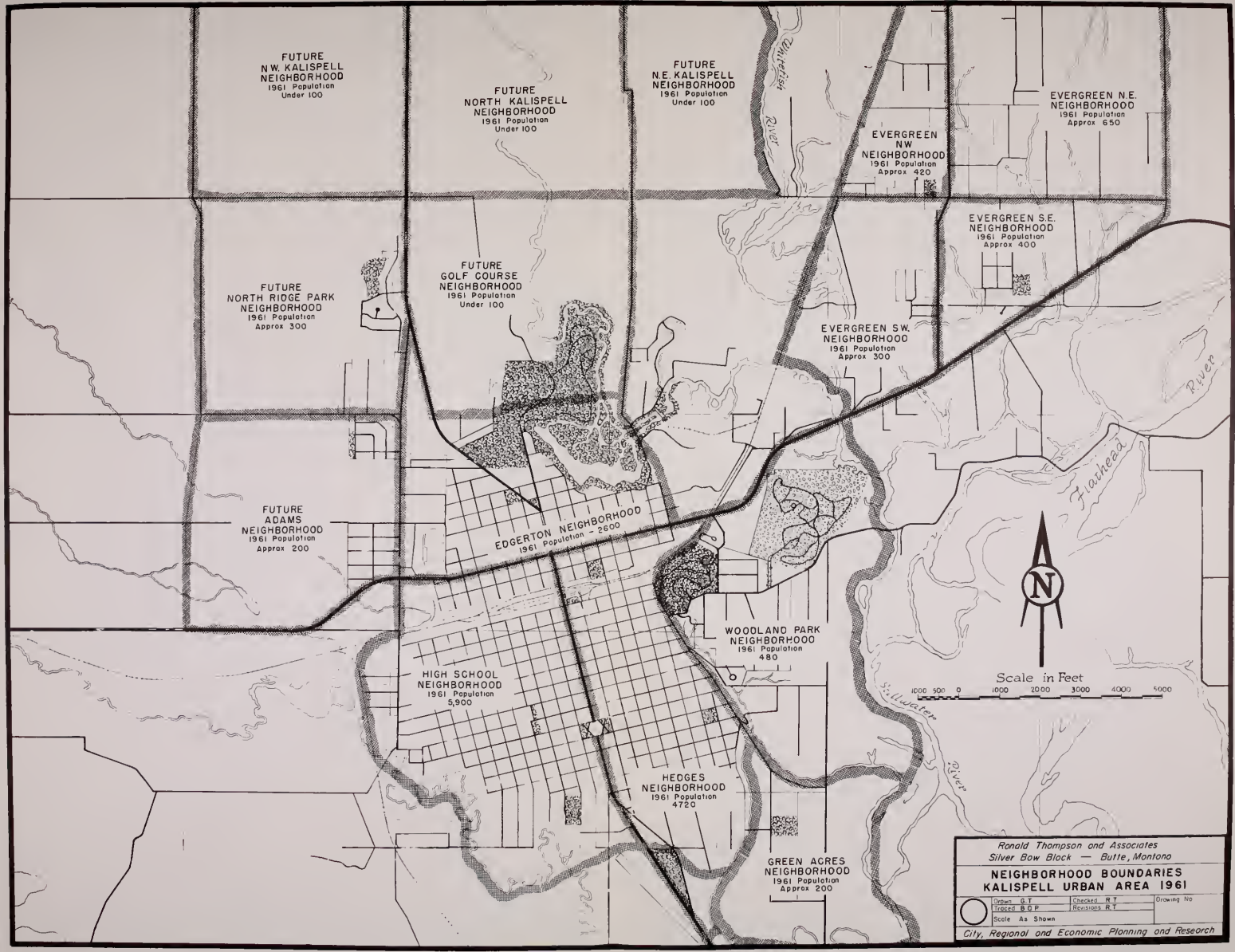
Based on standards established by the National Recreation Association, the playfield should not be less than 10 acres with 20 acres being the more desirable. The playfield should serve the recreational needs of approximately 20,000 people and provide an area of 1 acre of parkland for each 800 people.

# SCHEMATIC DRAWING OF NEIGHBORHOODS IN RELATION TO SUB COMMUNITY




NOTE —

1. Park-school location in center of neighborhood.
2. Arterials around neighborhood rather than through.
3. Walking distance to neighborhood & sub-community park.


FUTURE
N.W. KALISPELL
NEIGHBORHOOD
1961 Population
Under 100
FUTURE
NORTH KALISPELL
NEIGHBORHOOD
1961 Population
Under 100
FUTURE
N.E. KALISPELL
NEIGHBORHOOD
1961 Population
Under 100
Whitefish River
EVERGREEN N.E.
NEIGHBORHOOD
1961 Population
Approx 650
EVERGREEN
NW
NEIGHBORHOOD
1961 Population
Approx 420
EVERGREEN S.E.
NEIGHBORHOOD
1961 Population
Approx 400
FUTURE
NORTH RIDGE PARK
NEIGHBORHOOD
1961 Population
Approx 300
FUTURE
GOLF COURSE
NEIGHBORHOOD
1961 Population
Under 100
EVERGREEN S.W.
NEIGHBORHOOD
1961 Population
Approx 300
Flathead River
FUTURE
ADAMS
NEIGHBORHOOD
1961 Population
Approx 200
EDGERTON NEIGHBORHOOD
1961 Population - 2600
N
WOODLAND PARK
NEIGHBORHOOD
1961 Population
480
Scale in Feet
1000 500 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000
HIGH SCHOOL
NEIGHBORHOOD
1961 Population
5,900
Stillwater River
HEDGES
NEIGHBORHOOD
1961 Population
4720
GREEN ACRES
NEIGHBORHOOD
1961 Population
Approx 200
Ronald Thompson and Associates
Silver Bow Block — Butte, Montono
NEIGHBORHOOD BOUNDARIES
KALISPELL URBAN AREA 1961
Drawn G.T
Traced B.C.F
Checked R.T
Revisions R.T
Drawing No
Scale As Shown
City, Regional and Economic Planning and Research

In the overall recreational program the playfield should provide the following:

1. Separate sports field for men and women for such games as baseball, softball and football
2. Courts for tennis, horseshoes and shuffleboard
3. Lawn areas for croquet and archery
4. Fireplaces and tables for small picnic groups
5. Children's playground
6. Running track and space for field events
7. Recreation building or community center

Metropolitan Park Land

There are two sub-communities in the Kalispell metropolitan area; these are the High School sub-community and the Evergreen sub-community. The High School sub-community includes all of the City of Kalispell and the adjacent suburban neighborhood.

The Evergreen sub-community is suggested for future development, although the residential growth of this sub-community has not increased enough to justify provision of a playfield at this time.

The total acreage devoted to parks and recreational uses, within the urban area, is somewhat more than is recommended as a minimum by the N.R.A. There is a total of 195.6 acres in park land for the two sub-communities, which have a total population of approximately 13,000 people. On the basis of a minimum of 10 acres of park land for each 1,000 persons, as recommended by the National Recreation Association, there should be a total of 130.0 acres of park land. The total park land in Kalispell is 65.6 acres in excess of the minimum. This excess is due to the large areas in Woodland Park, with 25 acres; Lawrence Park with 96 acres; and the Municipal Golf Course with 39 acres. If these large specialized parks were not included in the tabulation, there would only be 35.6 acres of park land.

It must again be emphasized that the standards described in this report are minimum and should not be considered as optimum standards. The optimum standards will have to be set by the community, and this will depend upon how much importance the community places on a parks and recreation program.

HIGH SCHOOL SUB-COMMUNITY

Parks in the sub-community

| | |
|---|---|
| Court House grounds | 4.0 acres |
| Griffin Ball Field | 2.0 acres |

| | |
|---|---|
| Eighth Avenue East Softball field | 2.0 acres |
| Woodland Park | 25.0 acres |
| Lawrence Park | 96.0 acres |
| Municipal Golf Course | 39.0 acres |
| Green Acres Park | 9.0 acres |
| Adams Park | 2.0 acres |
| North Ridge Park | 3.5 acres |
| Total acreage | 182.5 acres |

Schools in the Sub-community

| Schools | Site in Acres Total Site | Open Space |
|---|---|---|
| High School | 9.0 | 4.0 |
| Peterson School | 3.0 | 2.5 |
| Elrod School | 2.0 | 1.0 |
| Hedges School | 4.0 | 2.25 |
| Central-Linderman School | 3.0 | 0.25 |
| Edgerton School | 2.0 | 0.70 |
| Russell School | 2.0 | 1.50 |
| Total School | | 12.20 acres |
| Total Park | | 182.5 |
| Composite Total | | 194.7 acres |

| 1960 Population | Ultimate Population |
|---|---|
| 9,992 | 24,400 |

Sub-Community Playfield

Existing Acreage - 1960 - 4 acres

Required Additional Acreage - 1960 - 6 acres

Ult - 5 acres

Existing Facilities

- Running tract
- Football field
- Storage building
- Fence
- Bleachers

Future Development

- Separate sports field for men and women
- Courts for tennis, horseshoes and shuffleboard
- Lawn areas for croquet and archery
- Fireplaces and tables for small picnic groups
- Children's playground
- Running track and space for field events
- Recreation building or community center

It is suggested that the sub-community playfield be located in the area of the High School athletic field, or alternatively, on the land previously used as the Municipal Airport. It would be desirable to have the sub-community playfield closer to the center of the city, but the availability of open space large enough to accommodate a playfield

is limited. Although the proposed playfield is off-center from the population of the community, it is still fairly close to the largest segment of the population, in particular, the Hedges and High School neighborhoods. Also, a playfield in this area is reasonably close to the High School and therefore, readily accessible to the high school students.

The existing high school athletic field is much too small to be developed as a sub-community playfield. This means that the site of the athletic field must be enlarged or that the playfield be established in a nearby area. There are three alternatives, all of which would work satisfactorily.

Alternative No. 1 - That the adjacent county owned land to the south of the existing athletic field be used for expansion of the playfield, as well as the purchase of leveled land immediately south and adjacent to the county land. This would make it possible to assemble an additional 8 acres, and provide a playfield of approximately 12 acres. This is the very minimum acreage to be acquired as it would also be necessary to provide additional parking to accommodate the cars of the spectators attending the football games and other school or community activities held at the athletic field.

Alternative No. 2 - Relocate the athletic field to the northern section of the property, previously used for the Municipal Airport, and develop the area as a playfield. Under this alternative there would be ample land but would require the additional cost of moving the bleachers and storage shed to the airport property. Those using the playfield would in addition have to travel a slightly greater distance to enjoy the facilities.

Alternative No. 3 - Establish the playfield on the airport property, leaving the athletic field on its present location, to be continued in use as a football stadium. This alternative has the advantage of saving the cost of moving the athletic field, and establishing a playfield where there is ample land. A stadium or athletic field, where admission is charged to view a sporting event, theoretically, is not a compatible recreational use with the playfield. The athletic field is a somewhat restricted recreational use where the residents of the community derive recreation as a spectator, while the playfield is designed to provide recreational activities for the residents through participation in a sport. The disadvantage is the same as in Alternative No. 2, where the residents would have to travel slightly farther to a playfield located on the airport property, than to the present location of the athletic field.

As stated before, whichever alternative is chosen, it should work satisfactorily as a playfield. The one factor that is certain is that a sub-community playfield is needed.

## Neighborhood Parks in the High School Sub-Community

### High School Neighborhood

1961 Population - 5,900

Ult. Population - 6,000

Existing acreage - 1961
3.5 acres

Required additional acreage
1961 - 3.5 acres
Ult. - Nil

The High School Neighborhood does not contain any recreational area which can be classified as a playground as described by the National Recreation Association. The only land available for play by children in the elementary and pre-school age group is the Peterson School with approximately 2.5 acres and the Elrod School with approximately 1 acre. The Peterson School, which has the largest area presents the best possibility for development as a playground, although the area is smaller than the minimum area suggested by the National Recreation Association.

Another recreational area located in the High School neighborhood is the football field located approximately 3 blocks south of the County High School. This is a restricted type of recreational area and has been proposed as one of the alternatives for a sub-community playfield. A second open area, but again which cannot be classified as a playground, is the area around the Court House. There is approximately 1.4 acres of land on each side of the Court House. The use of this land could be increased substantially by placing flower beds, benches and possibly a concrete checker board in the area. This would also add to the attractiveness of the Court House and the view south along Main Street.

Following is a resumé of each of the parks in the High School neighborhood:

#### Peterson Elementary School

area of site - 3 acres; open space - 2.5 acres

#### Existing Facilities

2 softball diamonds and bleachers
1 slide
1 basketball goal
1 set jungle bars
1 teeter totter
3 tennis courts
Area entirely in lawn

Future Development

Corner for pre-school children
1 swing set and other apparatus for older children
Provision for field games, such as football, soccer, etc.
Area for story telling, crafts and dramatics
Sand box

Elrod School

area of site - 2 acres; open space - 1 acre

Existing Facilities

2 teeter totters
2 merry-go-rounds
3 basket ball goals
1 set slides
1 gym bars
1 set swings

Future Development

None. Not enough area for additional facilities

County High School and Athletic Field

area of site - 9 acres; open area - 4 acres (restricted use)

Existing Facilities

Landscaped

Future Development

Athletic Field - see sub-community playfield

Open Area around Court House

area of site - 2.8 acres; open area - 1 acre

Existing Facilities

Trees and lawn

Future Development

Passive Recreation
Flower beds and benches
Checker Board

Hedges Neighborhood

1961 Population - 4,720
Ult. Population - 5,100

Existing Acreage - 1961

7 acres

Required additional acreage
1961 - None
Ult. - None

At first it appears that there is playground acreage in excess of the minimum area recommended by the National Recreation Association. However, closer inspection of the playground areas shows this is not the case. Additional acreage

is not recommended because this neighborhood is almost completely developed and the acquisition of additional land for playground use would be so costly as to be prohibitive. Therefore, it is advisable to make the best use of the available land. The two areas which are suggested for playground use are the Central-Linderman School site and the Hedges School site, this including the vacant area directly across the street to the east, just south of the hospital. Usually it is not good policy to develop a playground close to a hospital, but in this case it is believed justified. The vacant area east of the school is not large enough for complete development as a playground, therefore, it is suggested that the Eighth Avenue soft ball field, located two blocks to the east of the school, also be considered a part of the playground. That is, that the vacant land near the school be developed with swings, slides and other apparatus for older children and areas for pre-school children, with the softball field to be developed for field games as well as a softball diamond.

A second playground that should be developed is the Central-Linderman School site. The site is located in the extreme northern part of the neighborhood and is small in size. This playground is very necessary to provide recreational facilities for the children during the school year and for the younger children who could not walk to the Hedges School playground.

Should Central School be demolished in the future, due to the condition of the building, every attempt to retain the site in public use for recreational purposes should be made.

There is one other play area in this neighborhood, namely the Griffin Ball Park. This area is designed for organized team play and therefore, restricted in the type of recreational use. It can not be counted as a playground because of the limited scope of the recreational activities.

The following is a review of the parks and recreational areas in the neighborhood.

Hedges School

Area of site - 4 acres; open space - 2.25 acres

Existing Facilities
- softball diamond
- basketball goal
- gym bars
- merry-go-round
- set of swings
- slide
- teeter totter

Future Development
Remove present ball diamond
Corner for pre-school children
Open space for informal play
Area for story telling
Crafts and dramatics
Corner for table games and other activities for older people
Landscape features

Eighth Avenue East

Area of site - 2 acres; open space - 2 acres

Existing Facilities

Softball field

Future Development

Open area for court games
Space for football and mass games (can be superimposed on softball field)

Central-Linderman School

Area of site - 4.5 acres; open space - 0.25 acres

Existing Facilities

basketball goals
softball backstop
three tennis courts (poor condition)

Future Development

Improve softball diamond and tennis courts
Corner for pre-school children
Apparatus area for older children
Area for story telling, crafts and dramatics
Landscape features

Griffin Ball Field

Area of site - 2 acres; open space - 2 acres

Existing Facilities

Baseball Diamond

Future Development

Remain in same use

Edgerton Neighborhood

1961 Population - 2,600 Ultimate Population - 3,100

Existing Acreage 1961
4.2 acres

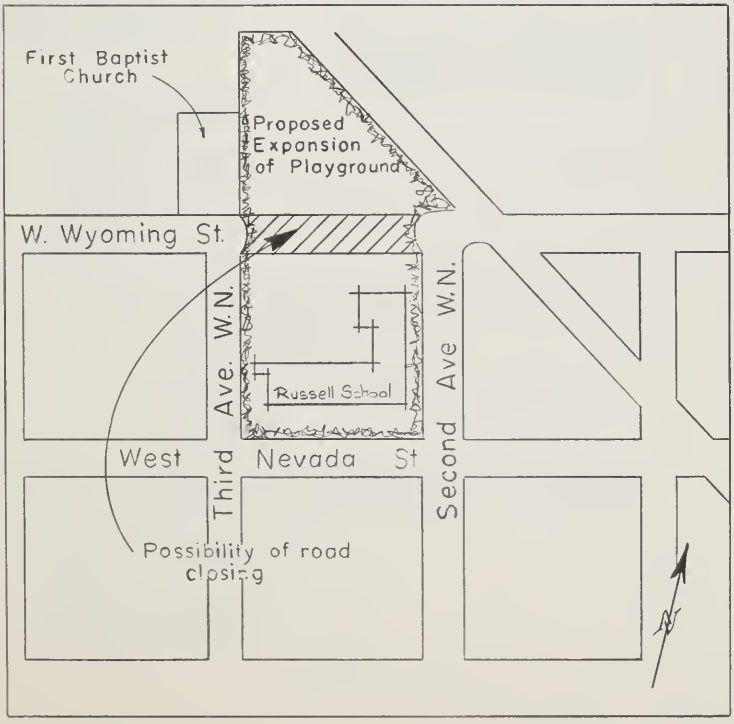
Required Additional Acreage
1961 - none
Ult. - none

The central part of this neighborhood is almost completely developed and there is little possibility of expansion to the north because of the golf course, Lawrence Park, and the sharp changes in topography near the back waters of

Stillwater River. Limited expansion is possible to the west in the area of the Fair Grounds and to the east. Unfortunately, this neighborhood is bisected by the highway to Whitefish. Special provision should be made for the establishment of crossing areas for children upon the highway.

There are two schools in this neighborhood and one small park. In addition, the golf course, Lawrence Park and the area of the backwaters of the Stillwater River contain a total of 135 acres. These three park areas will be discussed further under the section on community parks and are not considered as meeting playground requirements.

The only possibility, in this neighborhood, for establishing a playground is on the Russell School site, plus the addition of the two acres immediately north of the school next to the Baptist Church. To fully utilize these two sites as a playground it would be desirable to close the street between the school playground and the vacant site to the north.



The Edgerton School located in this neighborhood is on a small site occupied largely by the school plant, leaving only a little over one-half acre for an actual play area. Further, there is no vacant land adjacent to the school which could be acquired and developed as a playground. Therefore, there is no possibility for the development of a playground.

There is also a small triangular shaped park site at the intersection of Sunset Boulevard and East Nevada Street. Because of the small size of the site and its location, it cannot be developed as a play area. Therefore, it is suggested that this be made into a passive recreation area.

In summary the following is suggested:

Edgerton School

Area of site - 2 acres; open space - 0.7 acres

Existing Facilities

- Softball diamond
- Teeter totters
- Basketball goals
- Fence and landscaping

Future Development

- None

Russell School

Area of site - 2 acres; open space - 1.5 acres, plus 2 acres vacant land immediately to the north

Existing Facilities

- Swing set
- Softball diamond
- Basketball goal
- Teeter totter
- Landscaped and partially fenced

Future Development

- Close the one block of Wyoming Street from 2nd Avenue West to 3rd Avenue West
- Corner for pre-school children
- Open space for informal play
- Area for story telling and crafts
- Corner for table games and other activities for older people
- Additional landscaping

Park at Intersection of Sunset Blvd. and Nevada Street

Area of site - 0.5 acres; open space - 0.5 acres

Existing Facilities

- Lawn

Future Development

- Passive Recreation

## SUBURBAN AREAS

The parks and playgrounds described on the previous pages constitute the recreational areas serving the main urban area of Kalispell.

The following section of this report deals with the recreational areas and facilities in the suburban areas which include the following neighborhoods.

Proposed Evergreen Sub-Community

| | |
|---|---|
| Evergreen S.W. | Evergreen N.W. |
| Evergreen S.E. | Evergreen N.E. |

Golf Course Sub-Community
(Long Range)

| | |
|---|---|
| Adams | N. Kalispell |
| North Ridge | N.W. Kalispell |
| Golf Course | N.E. Kalispell |

Green Acres Sub-Community
(Long Range)

Green Acres Four Corners
Woodland Park

Each of the above mentioned neighborhoods has an estimated population of from less than 100 to just over 650 persons. The present population is therefore, not great enough to justify a neighborhood playground.

Another point to be considered is that in suburban areas where there is ample open space the recreational activities of the children and adults are different from those of the residents of the high density urban area. For the children, the recreational activities consist of hikes along the streams or woodland areas or a ball game in a vacant block, while adults are more concerned with gardening or the keeping of livestock or horses for personal use. In many cases these activities are the prime motivation for a family to move to a suburban area.

In such true suburban areas, therefore, it is questionable whether a playground would get enough use to justify the development.

This does not mean that organized recreation areas should be neglected. Even though there is ample open space in the suburban neighborhood now, it could change radically

in the future, and only too often the area is well built up before there is a realization that ample park space to satisfy the recreational needs of the population is lacking.

While open area is still available and at a relatively low cost, land should be optioned or purchased to allow for the establishment of parks when the neighborhood increase in population makes a playground essential.

The following is a description of existing parks and facilities and suggestions for future development.

## Proposed Evergreen Sub-Community

### Parks in the Sub-Community

Evergreen School Park - 2.1 acres

| Schools in the Sub-Community | Site in acres Total | Open |
|---|---|---|
| Evergreen School | 2.1 | .75 |
| Evergreen Junior Grade | 5.7 | 4.0 |

| 1961 Population | Ultimate Population |
|---|---|
| 1,770 plus | 8,500 |

The sub-community is in the early stages of development as an urban area. Presently there is no need for a playfield, nor could the cost of a playfield be justified. It is very necessary though that a site be designated for a playfield while the cost is relatively low and open land of sufficient size is available. The suggested location of the playfield is adjacent to the Evergreen Junior Grade School and lying to the west and north. This would serve the area to the west presently being developed and any future development which may take place to the east.

## Neighborhoods

### Evergreen S.W. Neighborhood

Population 1961 - 300 plus

Ult. Population - 2,000 plus

Existing Acreage - 1961
.75 acres

Required Additional Acreage
1961 - none
Ult. - 3.5 acres

There are no parks in this neighborhood other than the Evergreen School. This school is located in the extreme northeast corner of the neighborhood which results in an excessive distance for children in the south-

western part of the neighborhood to travel to the play area. It is suggested that the school site be developed only enough to satisfy the play requirements while the school is in session and that a site be acquired in a more central location in the area indicated on the proposed parks map.

In summary the following is suggested:

Evergreen School

area of site - 2.1 acres; open space - .75 acres

Existing Facilities

Swings
Teeter totter
Slide

Future Development

Minimum development for use by children while at school.

Evergreen N.W. Neighborhood

Population 1961 - 240 plus

Ult. Population - 1,600 plus

Existing Acreage - 1961
2.1 acres

Required Additional Acreage
1961 - none
Ult. - 3.5 acres

This is a small neighborhood in area with expansion of the area unlikely because of the railroad tracks and industrial area to the east. The triangular shape of the neighborhood also precludes very much development to the north. Again as in the case of the Evergreen Southwest neighborhood, the only park is located in the extreme corner of the neighborhood, requiring excessive walking distance for children living in the northern part of the neighborhood. It is, therefore, suggested that the small park at the junction of West Evergreen Road and LaSalle Road be used in conjunction with the school's physical education program and that a 3-5 acre site for a playground be optioned or purchased in a more central location in the neighborhood.

In summary the following is suggested:

Park at junction of West Evergreen Road and LaSalle Road

area of site - 2.1 acres; open space - 2.1 acres

Existing Facilities

Softball diamond (bleachers)
Small picnic area

Future Development

None. Use as play area for school.

Evergreen N.E. Neighborhood

Population 1961 - 650
Ult. Population - 2,400
Existing Acreage - 1961
none*
Required Additional Acreage
1961 - none
Ult. - 4.0 acres

The streams flowing through this neighborhood tend to separate the neighborhood into four parts. A park at the approximate center of the neighborhood would aid in pulling the neighborhood together as a unit. As in the case of the other neighborhoods in this sub-community it is suggested that a playground site with a minimum area of approximately 3.5 acres be acquired.

Evergreen S.E. Neighborhood

Population 1961 - 400 plus
Ult. Population - 2,500 plus
Existing Acreage - 1961
None
Required Additional Acreage
1961 - none
Ult. - 3.5 acres

The area of privately owned land in the vicinity of Cedar Street now being used for park purposes is well located and of more than adequate size for a neighborhood playground. An attempt should be made at obtaining approximately 4 acres of this site for park purposes. Residents of the subdivision have already installed a ball diamond and as the population of the neighborhood continues to increase, additional playground facilities should be provided.

Long Range Golf Course Sub-Community

The possibility of sufficient population growth to require the provision of a sub-community playfield to serve this area is considered very long range, however, if possible, a 20 acre playfield site to the north of the existing golf course would be desirable.

*The area of the site of the Evergreen Junior Grade School is not included because it is a part of the proposed playfield.

Adams Neighborhood

Population 1961 - 200 plus
Ult. Population - 2,500 plus
Existing acreage - 1961
2 acres
Required additional acreage
1961 - none
Ult. - 2 acres

Presently there are only two platted subdivisions in this neighborhood with only a few homes constructed. The remainder of the population is scattered rather thinly throughout the remainder of the neighborhood to the west. There is one undeveloped park in the neighborhood and there is no justification for development at the present time. A minimum of 2 additional acres will be needed as the neighborhood reaches the ultimate population and therefore it is suggested that the existing park be expanded to the west in the amount of at least 2 acres.

Golf Course Neighborhood

Population 1961 - less than 100
Ult. Population - 2,000 plus
Existing Acreage - 1961
none
Required additional acreage
1961 - none
Ult. - 3.5 acres

A portion of Lawrence Park is in this neighborhood providing more than ample open space for the neighborhood. As this neighborhood develops in the future, areas for organized play will be required. It is suggested as a part of the development of Lawrence Park as a regional park, that a flat area of approximately 3.5 to 4 acres be reserved as a playground area, not only to serve the children in the neighborhood but also those visiting the park.

Northridge Park Neighborhood

Population 1961 - 300
Ult. Population - 2,500 plus
Existing Acreage - 1961
3.5 acres
Required additional acreage
1961 - none
Ult. - none

There is one undeveloped park in this neighborhood with no need for development at this time. The park area is sufficient to meet the minimum requirements for park area and, if possible, the area should be expanded. The park is located in the northeastern part of the neighborhood which will mean that children in the southwestern part of the neighborhood will have to travel more than the desirable minimum distance of one-half mile. However, because of the increased cost of maintenance and duplication of play facilities, it is recommended that only the Northridge Park be developed as a playground.

Green Acres Sub-Community
(Long Range)

Again, it is thought that the prevailing population densities and type of residential development make the provision of a sub-community playfield in this area very long range but should land become available along the banks of the Stillwater River, it would be worth while obtaining approximately 20 acres for future parkland needs.

Neighborhoods

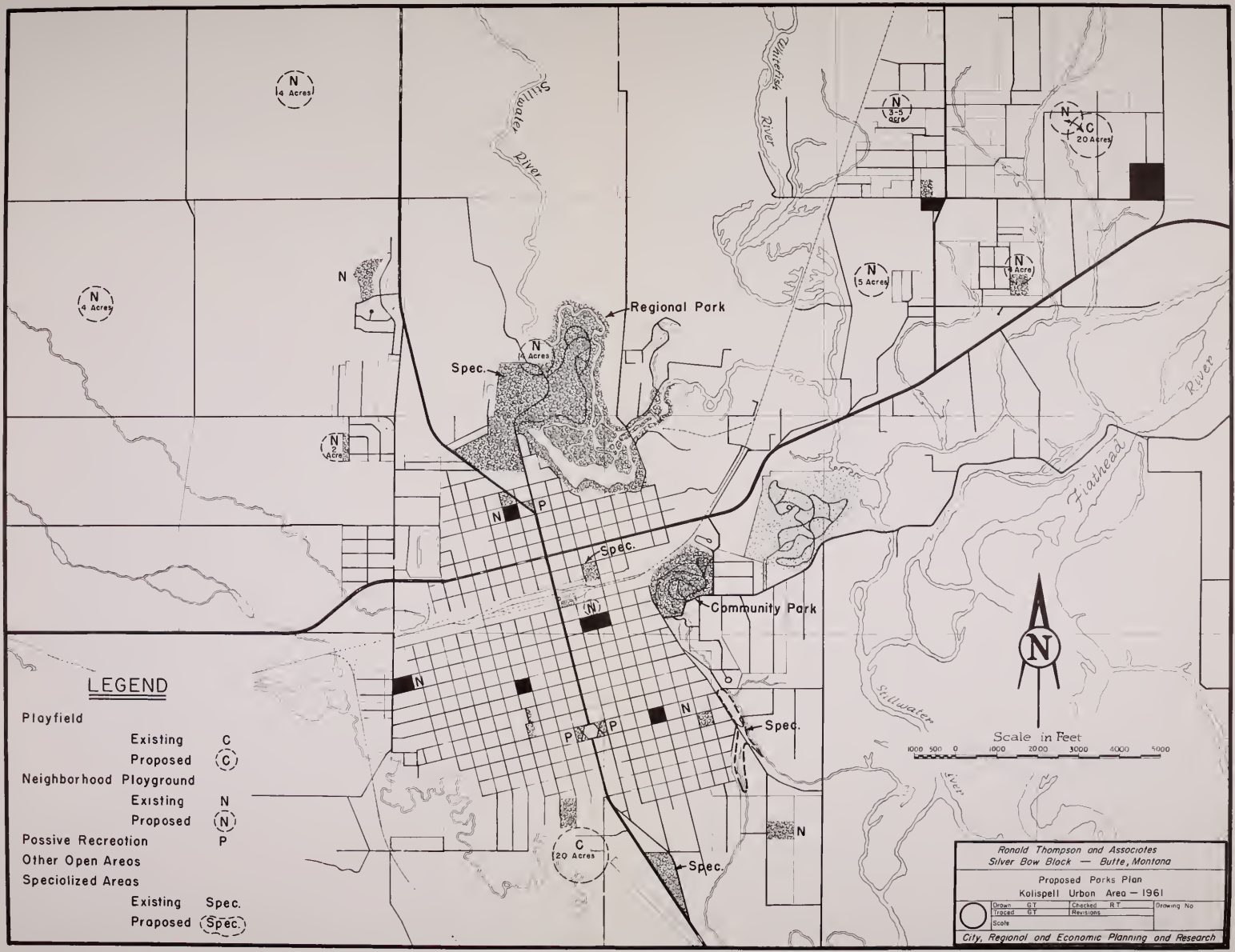
Woodland Park Neighborhood

Population 1961 - 480
Ult. Population - 1,700
Existing Acreage - 1961
None
Required additional acreage
1961 - none
Ult. - 3.5 acres

The Woodland Park is located in this neighborhood and serves as a community park. Play apparatus is provided in this park as well as a swimming pool and other recreational facilities. The Woodland Park will be discussed in more detail later under the section on Regional and Community Parks. Until the neighborhood increases in population to where a playground, as shown on the parks plan, is justified, this park can serve as a recreational area for the children in the northern part of the neighborhood.

Green Acres Neighborhood

Population 1961 - 200 plus
Ult. Population - 1,500
Existing Acreage - 1961
9 acres


Stillwater River
Whitefish River
Flathead River
Stillwater River
N 4 Acres
N 4 Acres
N
N 4 Acres
N 2 Acres
N 3-5 Acres
N 5 Acres
N 4 Acres
C 20 Acres
Regional Park
Spec.
Community Park
Spec.
Spec.
Spec.
C 20 Acres
N
N
N
N
N
P
P
P
LEGEND
Playfield
Existing C
Proposed (C)
Neighborhood Playground
Existing N
Proposed (N)
Possive Recreation P
Other Open Areas
Speciolized Areas
Existing Spec.
Proposed (Spec.)
Scale in Feet
1000 500 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000
Ronald Thompson and Associates
Silver Bow Block — Butte, Montana
Proposed Parks Plan
Kolispell Urban Area — 1961
Drawn GT
Traced GT
Checked RT
Revisions
Drawing No
Scale
City, Regional and Economic Planning and Research

Required additional acreage
1961 - none
Ult. - none

The Green Acres school site located in this neighborhood, should be entirely adequate to serve the recreational needs of the neighborhood when it reaches the ultimate population.

Four Corners Neighborhood

Population 1961 - under 100

Ult. Population - 1,000

Existing Acreage - 1961
None

Required additional acreage
1961 - none
Ult. - 3.5 acres

This neighborhood will in all probability develop to suburban residential density and park acquisition will be very long range.

Other proposed neighborhoods, not mentioned in either of the long range sub-communities above are immediately to the north of the Kalispell city limits and are designated on the parks plan as the Northwest, North, and Northeast Kalispell neighborhoods. It is considered very unlikely that any intensive development will occur in this area, but if urban density sub-division plats are presented it would be desirable to attempt a land reservation of the size and approximate location shown on the parks plan.

## COMMUNITY PARKS

Woodland Park

Area - 25 acres

Existing Facilities

Flower gardens
Lagoon
Wildlife preserve
Picnic tables and benches
Children's play equipment
swings
slides
sand box
Swimming pool
Wading pool

This area is presently used as a community park. Not only do the citizens of the immediate community use the park, but also those from the surrounding area and the region.

This park is well located and is easily accessible from all parts of the community. The park is also well developed. It is recommended, therefore, that no changes be made at the present time.

Municipal Golf Course

Expansion of the existing golf course to eighteen holes should be considered both as an addition to the local recreational facilities and as a method of increasing tourist attraction to the area. The closeness of this golf course to Lawrence Park makes the development of Lawrence Park as a regional park much more attractive.

## REGIONAL PARK

Lawrence Park (Including slough area)

Area - 96 acres

Existing facilities

Swings
Merry-go-rounds
Picnic tables
Picnic shelter (with stove)

Future Development

Develop as a regional park in cooperation with the Montana State Parks Department.

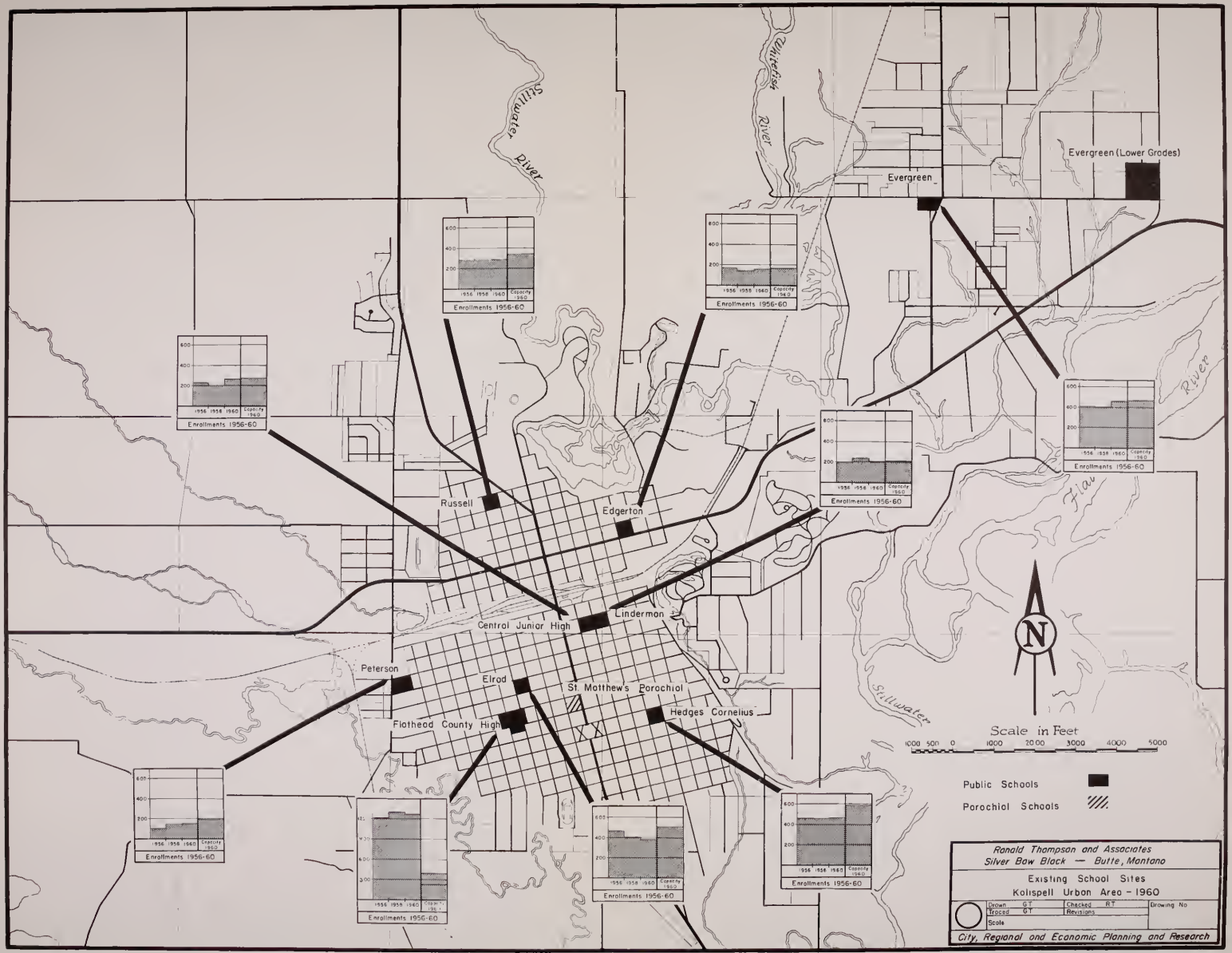
Lawrence Park covers a large area with varied topography ranging from hillsides, flatlands, marshy bottom land and lagoons from the backwaters of the Stillwater. With such variation in contour and land type it will be possible to develop an interesting and functional park. It is suggested that initial discussion with the State Parks Department should be carried out now with a view to development of the area as a regional tourist park with possibly space being provided for overnight trailer or tent camping, picnic areas, archery field courses, and other uses.

## SPECIAL PARKS

Fair Grounds

It would be very desirable to make use of the Fair Grounds for a longer period of time than during Fair Week. It is suggested, therefore, that the possibility of using the open space around the buildings for noise

producing recreational activities be studied. This type of activity could include "go-cart" racing, model airplane flying, open air teenage dancing, adult roller and ice skating rink, "hot rod" clubs and other uses. In some communities the actual exhibition buildings have been used for indoor skating rinks, while the inside of race tracks have been used as ball fields, with the grandstand used for bleachers. In Montana, however, the use of land by animals and humans is restricted and careful planning would be required to accomplish multi-use.


Stillwater River
Whitefish River
Evergreen
Evergreen (Lower Grades)
Russell
Edgerton
Lindermon
Central Junior High
Peterson
Elrod
St. Matthews Porochial
Flathead County High
Hedges Cornelius
Flau
Stillwater
River
Enrollments 1956-60
1956 1958 1960 Capacity 1960
Scale in Feet
1000 500 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000
Public Schools
Porochial Schools
Ronald Thompson and Associates
Silver Bow Block — Butte, Montana
Existing School Sites
Kolispell Urbon Area - 1960
Drawn GT
Checked RT
Traced GT
Revisions
Scale
Drawing No
City, Regional and Economic Planning and Research

## SCHOOLS

Three separate school districts serve the Kalispell urban area. These are: Elementary School Districts Numbers 5 and 50, and the Flathead County High School District.

In addition, two parochial schools are located in Kalispell; St. Matthews and Trinity Lutheran.

The Kalispell Elementary School District No. 5 is a first class district, (defined by State law as containing a population of 8,000 or more) and serves the urban area of Kalispell and vicinity, with a boundary to the north east with the Evergreen School District.

District No. 5 operates seven elementary schools and an "opportunity school". Five of these schools had six grades in 1960, while Central and Linderman Schools held one grade each, 7th and 8th respectively. Total elementary enrollment in the school district was over 1,900 students in the 1960-61 school year.

Elementary School District No. 50 covers the rapidly developing Evergreen area. This has been a third class district, as defined by State law, and by this time should be in the second class district classification, (population of 1,000 to 7,999 persons).

The Evergreen Elementary District owns and operates two schools, covering grades 1 through 8, and the total elementary school enrollment in this school district, for the 1960-61 school year, was approaching 500 students.

The Flathead County High School District is composed of 38 elementary school districts, this representing a major part of the county elementary enrollments and of the land area within the county.

The physical plant of the Flathead County Senior High School consists of four different buildings on the same site; these are the main building, girls physical education building, vocational education building and a general shop building. An athletic field is located within a short distance from the plant.

1960-61 enrollment at the Senior High School was over 1,200 students.

Enrollments

The charts on the following pages indicate the past enrollments in each of the three school districts under study.

Enrollments in Elementary School District No. 5, show a 23% increase in Grades 1 through 8 in the ten year period from 1950 to 1960. From year to year during this same ten year period a varied trend can be observed. Yearly increases in the total elementary enrollment occurred in every year from 1953 to 1957.

Since 1957, however, the total elementary enrollments have remained rather static.

Over the ten year period from 1950-1960, the number of pre-school children (from 0 years to 5 years) increased only 3% compared to a 23% increase for the 1st to 8th grades.

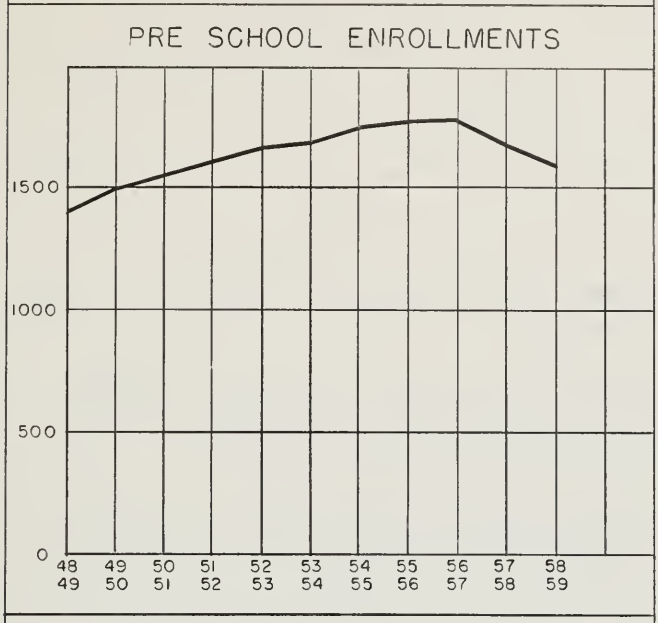
On a year to year basis, the number of pre-schoolers increased in every year from 1950 to 1957, but from 1957 to date an annual 5% decrease has been experienced.

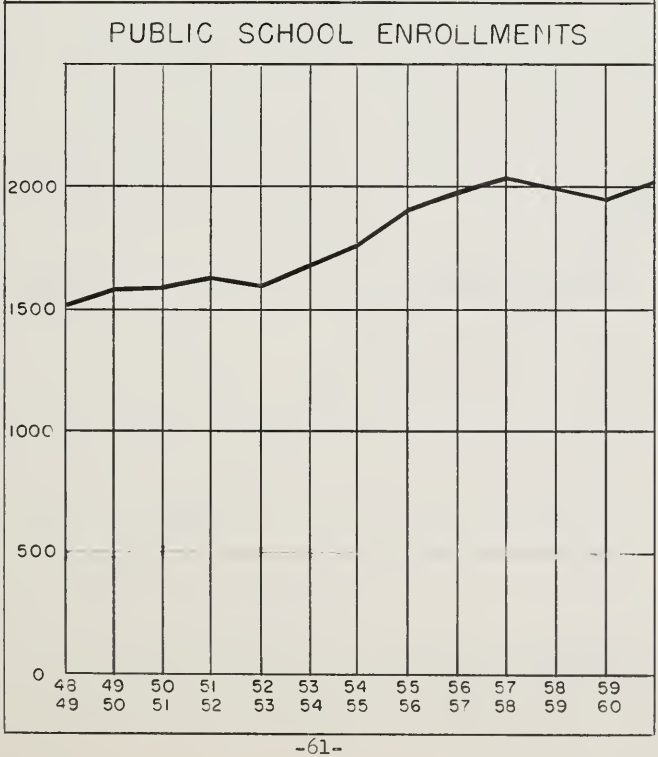
Most of this decrease in pre-school population seems to be in the younger age groups. To illustrate this: in 1950 there were 278 one year olds in the district compared to 207 in 1960 or a 26% decrease. On the other hand, in 1950 there were 224 five year olds which figure increased 25% to 281 children in 1960.

In Elementary School District No. 50, Evergreen, a much higher growth trend has been evidenced. Elementary school enrollments in Grades 1 through 8 increased over 91% in the 1950-1960 decade and in only one of the ten years did the total elementary enrollment fall below that of the previous year. This was in the 1957-58 school year where a 10% decrease occurred. This was, in the main, due to a decrease in the 1st grade of about 30 pupils. This grade in following years returned to the upward trend, accommodating 88 pupils in 1960.

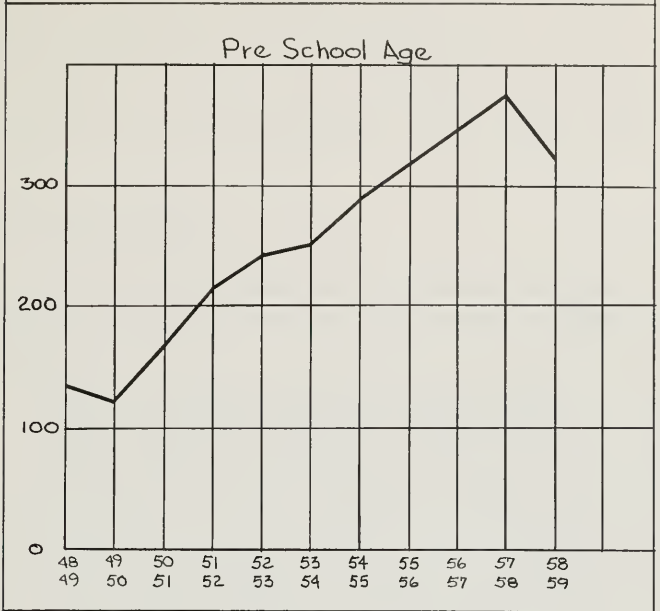
Pre-school population in the school district has also shown high rates of percentage increase, ranging from 28% from 1951 to 1952, to 14% increase from 1954 to 1955. From 1959 to 1960, however, the district's pre-school population decreased by 50 children, or 14%.

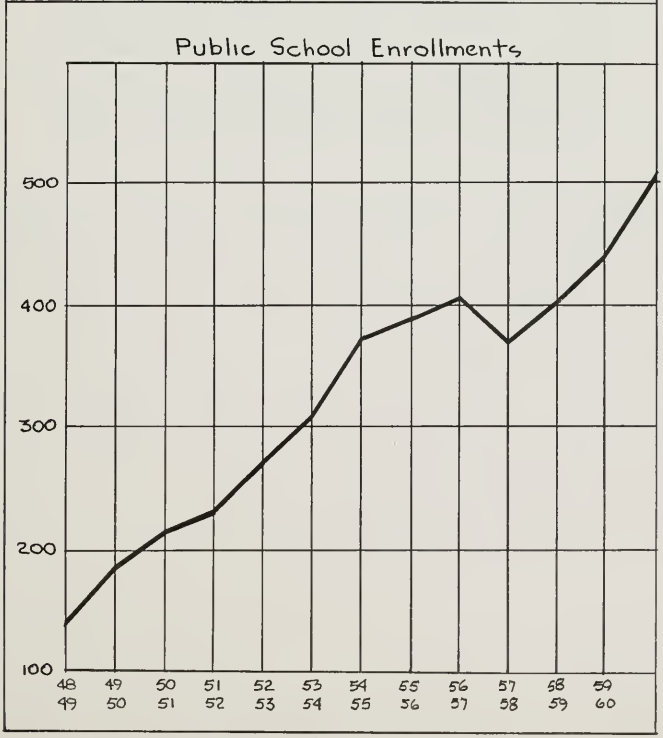
# PRE SCHOOL & PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENTS
## DISTRICT NO. 5 KALLISPELL



# Pre School and Public School Enrollments
## District No 50 Evergreen



Flathead County High School enrollments over the 1950-60 decade have increased over 32% from 982 students in 1950 to 1,300 in 1960. Some evidence of a decreasing high school enrollment is, however, apparent. This anticipated decrease may be due to the poor year of 1958 when every grade in the High School District, from 1 to 12, experienced a high percentage drop-out except Grade 9. Drop-outs in this year amounted to an average of 11% for each of the twelve grades.

Enrollment Forecasts

The method used for projection of school enrollments in this report is known as the "Cohort-Survival" or "Grade Succession Technique". Briefly this method is as follows:

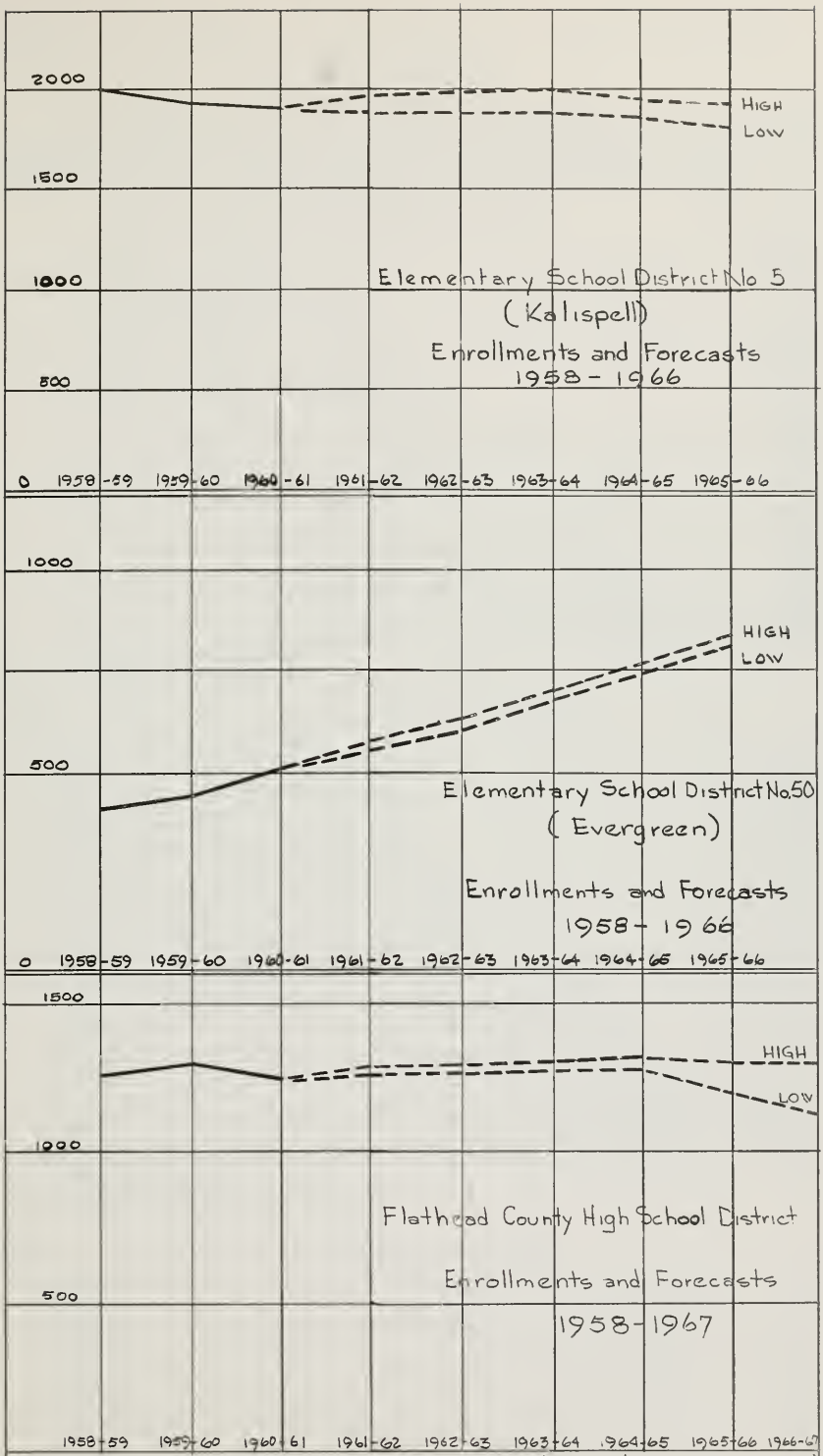
1. List the number of pupils enrolled in each grade on a special form made for this purpose, covering the number of years in the study. The ten year period from 1950 to 1960 was used in this study so as to obtain comparability with U.S. Census data.
2. Determine the ratio (percent) of survival of enrollment in each grade in each year to the enrollment in the next lower grade during the preceding year. (For example, if there were 75 pupils enrolled in the first grade in 1955 and 80 pupils enrolled in the second grade in 1956, the percent of survival would be 80/75 or plus 106.7%).
3. Average the percent of pupils remaining for each grade over the period of years used and obtain the "average percent of survival". With this data for each grade it is possible to project enrollment for the future.

The enrollment projections shown on the following charts are based on a ten year (1950-60) average percent of survival factor (high estimate) and a three year, (1957-60) percent of survival factor (low estimate).

Why the difference in these two figures? The ten year factor includes periods of high economic levels for the county. Construction of Hungry Horse Dam and the Aluminum Plant raised the population of the area and therefore, the number of school children. The three year average percent of survival includes part of the A.C.M. activity period but is generally indicative of a period of recession, low lumber prices and economic readjustment.

Elementary School District No. 5

Projected enrollments in Elementary School District No. 5 have been affected by the comparatively low birth rates of 1957 to date. Both the high and low estimates of Grades 1 through 8 in the District represent a leveling in most grades until 1969.




High estimates based on 10 year average drop-out.
Low estimates based on 3 year average drop-out.

# Enrollment Forecasts for Elementary School Districts No. 5 and No. 50 and Flathead County High School

| Grades | 1961<br>1962 | 1962<br>1963 | 1963<br>1964 | 1964<br>1965 | 1965<br>1966 | 1966<br>1967 | 1967<br>1968 | 1968<br>1969 | 1969<br>1970 | 1970<br>1971 | 1971<br>1972 | Average % drop out<br>3 years |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Elementary School District No. 5 | | | | | | | | | | | 10 years |
| 1 | 262 | 241<br>257 | 241<br>257 | 185<br>197 | — | | | | | | | - 8.6%<br>- 2.7% |
| 2 | 235 | 242<br>248 | 223<br>228 | 223<br>228 | 171<br>175 | - | | | | | | - 7.7%<br>- 5.2% |
| 3 | 252 | 221<br>241 | 228<br>254 | 210<br>234 | 210<br>234 | 161<br>180 | - | | | | | - 6.0%<br>+ 2.6% |
| 4 | 218 | 242<br>244 | 212<br>233 | 219<br>246 | 202<br>227 | 202<br>227 | 155<br>174 | — | | | | - 3.9%<br>- 3.2% |
| 5 | 239 | 209<br>216 | 232<br>242 | 203<br>231 | 210<br>244 | 195<br>225 | 195<br>225 | 148<br>172 | - | | | - 4.3%<br>- 1.0% |
| 6 | 236 | 234<br>232 | 205<br>210 | 227<br>235 | 199<br>224 | 206<br>237 | 191<br>218 | 191<br>218 | 145<br>167 | - | | - 2.1%<br>- 2.9% |
| 7 | 238 | 236<br>233 | 234<br>229 | 205<br>207 | 227<br>232 | 199<br>221 | 206<br>234 | 191<br>215 | 191<br>215 | 145<br>165 | - | - .3%<br>- 1.3% |
| 8 | 251 | 224<br>236 | 222<br>231 | 220<br>227 | 193<br>205 | 214<br>230 | 187<br>219 | 194<br>232 | 180<br>213 | 180<br>213 | 137<br>165 | - 5.9%<br>- .9% |
| Total | 1931 | 1849<br>1907 | 1797<br>1884 | 1692<br>1805 | | | | | | | | — |
| Grades | Elementary School District No. 50 | | | | | | | | | | | — |
| 1 | 78<br>85 | 78<br>84 | 102<br>112 | 90<br>98 | 87<br>94 | — | | | | | | + 5.6%<br>+ 15.5% |
| 2 | 110<br>95 | 98<br>92 | 98<br>92 | 128<br>121 | 113<br>106 | 109<br>104 | | | | | | + 26.0%<br>+ 8.3% |
| 3 | 70<br>72 | 112<br>98 | 100<br>95 | 100<br>95 | 131<br>125 | 115<br>110 | 111<br>108 | | | | | + 2.0%<br>+ 3.4% |
| 4 | 72<br>72 | 75<br>78 | 121<br>106 | 108<br>102 | 108<br>102 | 141<br>135 | 124<br>118 | 120<br>116 | | | | + 7.9%<br>+ 7.7% |
| 5 | 50<br>52 | 75<br>78 | 78<br>84 | 125<br>115 | 112<br>111 | 112<br>111 | 145<br>146 | 129<br>128 | 125<br>126 | | | + 3.7%<br>+ 8.7% |
| 6 | 58<br>62 | 48<br>53 | 71<br>80 | 74<br>86 | 119<br>117 | 106<br>113 | 106<br>113 | 138<br>149 | 122<br>130 | 119<br>129 | | - 5.1%<br>+ 2.0% |
| 7 | 62<br>66 | 55<br>62 | 45<br>53 | 67<br>79 | 70<br>85 | 112<br>116 | 100<br>112 | 100<br>112 | 130<br>147 | 115<br>128 | 112<br>127 | - 5.6%<br>- 1.3% |
| 8 | 55<br>58 | 67<br>75 | 60<br>70 | 49<br>60 | 73<br>89 | 76<br>97 | 121<br>132 | 108<br>130 | 108<br>130 | 141<br>169 | 125<br>147 | + 8.4%<br>+ 14.6% |
| Total | 555<br>562 | 608<br>620 | 675<br>692 | 741<br>756 | 813<br>829 | — | | | | | | |
| Grades | Flathead County High School | | | | | | | | | | | — |
| 9 | 426<br>426 | 361<br>310 | 367<br>388 | 328<br>359 | 332<br>373 | 301<br>373 | 348<br>445 | 296<br>447 | 276<br>428 | 265<br>404 | 278<br>394 | + 7.4%<br>+ 4.6% |
| 10 | 308<br>299 | 394<br>394 | 334<br>342 | 339<br>359 | 303<br>332 | 307<br>345 | 278<br>345 | 322<br>396 | 274<br>398 | 256<br>381 | 245<br>360 | - 7.6%<br>- 7.6% |
| 11 | 299<br>309 | 267<br>268 | 342<br>353 | 308<br>306 | 294<br>322 | 263<br>297 | 266<br>309 | 241<br>309 | 290<br>356 | 247<br>366 | 231<br>351 | - 13.2%<br>- 10.4% |
| 12 | 251<br>257 | 259<br>267 | 231<br>231 | 297<br>305 | 268<br>264 | 254<br>278 | 227<br>256 | 230<br>267 | 208<br>266 | 250<br>306 | 213<br>355 | - 13.3%<br>- 13.7% |
| Total | 1284<br>1291 | 1281<br>1299 | 1274<br>1314 | 1272<br>1329 | 1197<br>1291 | 1125<br>1293 | 1119<br>1353 | 1089<br>1419 | 1048<br>1448 | 1018<br>1457 | 967<br>1460 | — |

Elementary School District No. 50

This district is expected to continue its past trend of increase in elementary enrollments although, perhaps not at such a high rate as in the past.

From the 1960-61 school year to the 1965-66 school year, a 63% increase in elementary enrollment could be expected. Data for higher elementary grades also indicates yearly individual grade increases.

High School District

The Flathead County High School District is comprised of 38 elementary districts and therefore, a study of preschool and elementary enrollments in each of these districts has been carried out in order to develop a survival or drop-out factor for the entire attendance area.

From a total of 1,300 students in the 9th to 12th grades in the 1959-60 school year, an increase may be expected by 1971, based on the average ten year drop-out factor.

One factor could influence this projection. The average drop-out in High School, used in this report, over both the ten year and three year period is:

| | Drop-out Factor | |
|---|---|---|
| | 10 year | 3 year |
| From 9th to 10th grades | -7.6% | -7.6% |
| 10th to 11th grades | -10.4% | -13.2% |
| 11th to 12th grades | -13.7% | -13.3% |

These drop-out figures are quite high, and may be reflecting the overcrowded conditions at the High School. It is believed that the High School authorities are endeavoring to reduce these drop-out ratios, with a consequent increase in enrollments.

The low estimate for the High School enrollment, as mentioned before, is based on the past three years enrollments, and is indicative of the economic conditions of that period.

In the 1954-55 school year, for example, eight of the twelve elementary and high school grades contibuting to the high school enrollments experienced increases, while in the 1958-59 school year only one of the twelve grades increased.

This three year average is believed to be a rather low forecast but further depression of the local economy could result in such a forecast proving accurate.

School Plant

In assessing the adequacy of school buildings, several criteria are used beyond the plant's general age, appearance and physical condition. To be considered in such an evaluation are such things as site size, special facilities provided, location, and crowding of classrooms.

Site Size

The national standard for area of school sites is five acres for the first 100 pupils, plus 1 acre for each additional 100 pupils.

An inaccuracy in the recently completed "Kellogg Report", for almost every school site, indicates an acreage almost double that which actually exists.

When the school site acreages are tabulated, as shown in the chart on the following page, it will be seen that all the existing elementary school sites in both Districts 5 and 50 are sub-standard. If Central School is eventually retired from service and razed, Linderman School would have an approximate 4.4 acre site, this being still only half as large as the national standard requirement for Linderman's present enrollment.

The Flathead County High School site of 10 acres total is far too small to meet the needs of the student body, particularly when it is considered that the athletic field (included in the site area mentioned above) is located four blocks from the high school building.

By conservative standards, the minimum size for a high school building should equal at least 10 acres for the first 100 pupils plus one additional acre for each additional 100 students. This would mean a minimum site size for the Flathead County High School of approximately 21 acres.

Condition

Of the nine elementary schools located within School Districts 5 and 50, eight may be classed as in fair to good structural condition.

Central School, built in 1896, appears, however, to have outlived its usefulness. The traffic circulation and safety within the building is poor. The Kellogg report has also made an appraisal of the structure, quoted below:

> "The Central School is an old, rather ill-designed building. High ceilings, narrow corridors, narrow wooden stairways, and combustible interior construction, characterize the building. To a considerable extent, Central must be looked upon as a definite fire hazard and a potential fire trap. It should be abandoned at the earliest feasible data. During the interim period in which it is continued in service, special precautions should be taken with respect to fire safety."

Flathead County Senior High School was rated in the recent Kellogg report as being in poor to excellent condition, this reflecting the very mixed character of the facilities provided by the five different additions built over the past fifty-nine years, since the original building was constructed.

The Kellogg Report contained the following statements:

> "The main building is a three story brick veneer structure constructed in four stages. The north wing of the building was completed in 1902. A classroom wing was added extending south from the original structure in 1912. It was at this time that the free-standing building presently known as the girls gymnasium was erected. In 1936 the classroom wing to the south was expanded and a new auditorium was constructed. A modern vocational education building of glass block, brick, and steel was completed in 1951, and the new gymnasium was erected as a structural addition to the main building in 1952. The most recent expansion of facilities provided a spacious new general shop building in 1957. Thus the continued enrollment growth and the broadening of the educational program and services has necessitated a continuing program of school plant expansion."

Three regular classrooms in the basement of the Senior High School must be rated unsatisfactory because of lack of adequate light and air.

| SCHOOL | Year Built With Additions | Site Size Acres | Class Rooms | Other Facilities | Enrollment 1961—1962 | Maximum Capacity | No. of Grades |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ELEMENTARY DISTRICT No. 5 | | | | | | | |
| ELROD | 1951 | 2.01 | 18 | Nurse's Office, Kitchen, Music Room, Multi-Purpose Room | 363 | 504 | 6 |
| PETERSON | 1951<br>1958 | 6.03 | 7 | Music Room, Opportunity Room, Stage, Multi-Purpose Room, Kitchen | 148 | 196 | 6 |
| RUSSELL | 1937<br>1954 | 4.0 | 11 | Multi-Purpose Room, Lockers, Kitchen | 308 | 330 | 6 |
| HEDGES | 1929<br>1954<br>1958 | 4.0 | 18 | Multi-Purpose Room, Band Cottage | 474 | 540 | 6 |
| EDGERTON | 1898<br>1951 | 2.01 | 6 | Multi-Purpose Room, Kitchen | 149 | 180 | 6 |
| CENTRAL | 1896 | 2.1 | 7 | Library, Shop | 238 | 250 | 1 |
| LINDERMAN | 1937<br>1958 | 2.1 | 11 | Science, Home Economics, Art, Orchestra, Band Rooms, Cafeteria, Auditorium, Gymnasium | 251 | 270 | 1 |
| ELEMENTARY DISTRICT NO. 50 | | | | | | | |
| EVERGREEN (Two Schools) | 1952<br>1957 | Approx. 6 Combined | 17 | Science Room, Gymnasium | (1959) 440 | 466 | 8 |
| FLATHEAD COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT | | | | | | | |
| HIGH SCHOOL | 1902 1912<br>1936 1951<br>1952 1957 | 10 | 22 | Shop, Gymnasium, Athletic Field, Locker and Showers, Visual Education, Music Rooms, Stage, Auditorium, Vocational Education, Laboratories, Library, Study Hall, Cafeteria | 1243 | | 4 |

There are five other classrooms in the basement plus the visual education room and the cafeteria.

Three classrooms on the main floor of the school may also be considered undesirable, two of these because of inadequate size and ceiling height, and one because it doubles as a hallway for traffic.

To sum up the general condition of the High School, in the words of the Kellogg Report:

> "The school plant facilities present rather extreme contrasts. The north wing, and to a considerable extent the east wing, is characterized by small classrooms, narrow corridors and stairways, and dark woodwork. Classrooms range from crowded, inadequate, and inferior instructional spaces in a number of instances to the superior facilities provided for vocational education in the new buildings. There is an acute shortage of locker space in the main building, and this problem has increased with the continued growth of enrollment."

Special Facilities

In the Kalispell Elementary School District No. 5, each of the elementary schools has a separate gymnasium, or multi-purpose room. Central School has its own library, shared by Linderman, while the other elementary schools have room libraries in each classroom. Shop facilities at Central School are also utilized by Linderman students.

An "opportunity" room is maintained at the Peterson School. This provided special instruction for 12 pupils during the 1960 school year.

The Evergreen Elementary District No. 50 has two elementary schools handling grades 1 through 8. Special facilities that are provided are a gymnasium and a science room.

At the Flathead County High School the physics laboratory, located in the basement, is lacking in light, ventilation and in floor area. Library facilities are also inadequate for the present enrollment of over 1,200 students while the study hall also serves as a traffic way for the second floor. Eight other special purpose rooms are inadequate in size to serve the students enrolled.

Location

Below is a review of the principles and standards for school location by which school administrators and planners are guided in planning school expansions.

1. Children of elementary school age should not be required to walk farther than one-half mile to reach school.

2. Junior High School students should not be required to walk farther than one and one-half miles to reach school.

3. Senior High School students should not be required to walk farther than two miles to reach school.

4. If public transportation is used, the time in-transit should preferably not exceed thirty minutes, which on the average is equivalent to four and a half miles. If school buses are furnished, the time spent on a one-way trip should not exceed forty-five to fifty minutes.

5. Children, particularly those of elementary school age, should not be required, unless it is unavoidable, to cross railroad tracks or streets carrying heavy traffic.

6. Children should not be required to cross business or industrial districts to reach the school, unless the intermingling of residential and commercial development makes this unavoidable.

7. Schools should not be located next to industrial areas, railroads, or any use which is detrimental to the operation of the school.

8. School locations should be integrated, insofar as is possible, with any park system in order to minimize duplication of recreational facilities.

The service or attendance area of an elementary school located according to these principles would be similar in many ways to a residential neighborhood, perhaps bounded by traffic arteries, but not bisected by them. Ideally, interior neighborhood streets should be service roads for the area's residents. The street patrolling problems in the school zone thus are minimized, and through traffic on the outskirts is not held up by 15-mile-an-hour speed zones and pedestrian crossings. The school at the center of such a neighborhood is well protected and easily accessible to resident children within a half-mile walking radius, more or less. In practice, this ideal is often unobtainable, but it is well to have the goal in mind, particularly in undeveloped areas.

The city's major street pattern forms a skeleton framework within which desirable school locations can be mapped out. From the population and physical data that is gathered and mapped by the Planning Board, estimates can be made of the ultimate population for an area. When the area accommodates as many people as it possibly can under expected density patterns, this estimated total is called the "saturation population."

The estimated "saturation population" and the projected rate of growth up to this population level may be used to determine the number of children in a given area at some future date. Out of these data, the projected need for schools in terms of location and size may be estimated.

## Future Requirements

### Elementary

For the purpose of forecasting future elementary school requirements, saturation populations have been estimated for school sections of the Kalispell urban area.

In order to weight the projections for each of the sectors, an adaptation of an old rule of thumb has been utilized. This procedure requires the calculation of the overall district ratio of pre-school children to elementary pupils and then comparing this overall ratio with the sectors.

As an illustration of this procedure, for every 100 elementary children in the Kalispell school district in 1960, there are 80 pre-school children. This ratio is the 1960 average for the entire district.

If, therefore, any individual sector of the district shows a great variation from this ratio, one can assume the following:

1. If the ratio of pre-school children is higher than the overall district average, it is reasonable to expect that this sector will experience a continuation of an increase in elementary enrollments in years to come.

2. If the ratio of pre-school children is lower than the district average, the specific area can be expected to experience a decline over past elementary enrollments.

Data relating to the sectors is shown below:

| Area | 1960 pre-school | Elementary | Ratio High Potential | Ratio Low Potential |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Edgerton School | 148 | 236 | - | .627 |
| Green Acres Woodland Park | 79 | 197 | - | .401 |
| Hedges School | 431 | 505 | .853 | - |
| Elrod School | 440 | 378 | 1.164 | - |
| Peterson School | 236 | 302 | - | .781 |
| Russell School | 244 | 354 | - | .689 |
| School District No. 5 | 1,578 | 1,972 | - | .800 |

It will be noted from the foregoing chart that only two of the sectors, Hedges and Elrod Schools, have ratios of pre-school to elementary above the district average. As both these sectors are now intensively developed with little room for residentail expansion, the expected increases should not prove too burdensome upon the school facilities.

In general terms, the projected school enrollments, for School District No. 5, contained in this report, indicate very little change in the number of children in elementary grades through 1965.

Based on this projection there appears to be little need for new elementary classroom construction in Kalispell Elementary School District No. 5 over the immediate future, other than as replacements for existing substandard rooms.

Probably the most urgent school replacement problem exists at Central School. This plant, the oldest in the school system, is in poor structural condition, and finances permitting, should be demolished.

The Evergreen Area, however, if past trends continue, will require additional elementary classrooms in the near future. From an enrollment of approximately 500 elementary students in 1960, an increase of over 250 students may be expected by 1965. This increase would require construction of approximately nine elementary classrooms.

High School

The most important school problem facing the urban area is the overcrowded condition of the Flathead County Senior High School.

Enrollment forecasts for the High School indicate a conservative enrollment of an additional 150 students by 1970. This is based on the trends established over the last ten years enrollments and does not include any increase in students by reason of a decline in terminal dropouts. Increased economic activity in any of 38 elementary school districts could also increase this projection.

Based on the desirable standard of 25 students per general purpose room, the present capacity of the High School is approximately 550 students. Using the less desirable standard of 30 pupils per general purpose room approximately 660 students could be adequately accommodated.

Bearing in mind that the High School campus and plant, using the second standard mentioned, is almost 100% overcrowded now, and that by 1970, based on the past ten year trend, an overcrowding of 120% can be expected, it is obvious that some solution should be sought.

The existing High School has, it is believed, reached saturation point as far as additional classroom space is concerned, but the good quality of the recent additions makes abandonment and construction of a new High School uneconomic.

When the condition of Central School, serving 7th grades, is taken into account, it is believed that the best solution for the high school overcrowding problem is the construction of a new Junior high school to serve grades 7, 8, and 9. This re-organization would solve several problems:

1. The present high school with additions could serve in the future as an atten attendance center for grades 10, 11, and 12.

2. Central could be demolished and its site area added to Linderman.

3. Linderman, with the addition of the site now occupied by Central, could be extended and utilized as a Junior High School serving grades 7, 8, and 9.

Based upon the "ultimate saturation" long range population of the area the following data gives a long range indication of future classroom needs. It should be remembered, however, that "ultimate" in this case is an approximate 40 year projection and as such can only give an idea of what might happen if recent trends continue.

Ultimate School Population

| | Population | | Elementary Popultion | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1960 | Ult. | 1960 | Ult. |
| Edgerton | 1,600 | 1,700 | 236 | 250 |
| Green Acres and Woodland | 500 | 1,700 | 197 | 670 |
| Hedges | 4,600 | 5,100 | 505 | 561 |
| Elrod | 3,350 | 3,350 | 378 | 378 |
| Peterson | 2,850 | 3,300 | 302 | 350 |
| Northridge | 280 | 3,500 | 123 | 1,536 |
| Russell | 1,620 | 2,200 | 231 | 315 |
| Evergreen | 800 | 3,000 | 403 | 1,422 |

Again, it should be repeated that the above ultimate populations are a guide to growth areas only and that the data is presented in order to assess the long range elementary school site needs.

Three points emerge from this data:

1. The Woodland Park-Green Acres area will in all probability require reservation of a school site in the next ten years. This need has already been foreseen by the School District by its foresight in acquiring a site in the Green Acres area.

2. The Northridge Heights area has much growth potential and option of an adequate site in the center of the neighborhood would be a wise procedure in the next ten years.

3. Evergreen already has two school sites, and the option for acquisition of two more, 6 to 7 acre sites, one on each side of the LaSalle road, should be considered in the next four years.

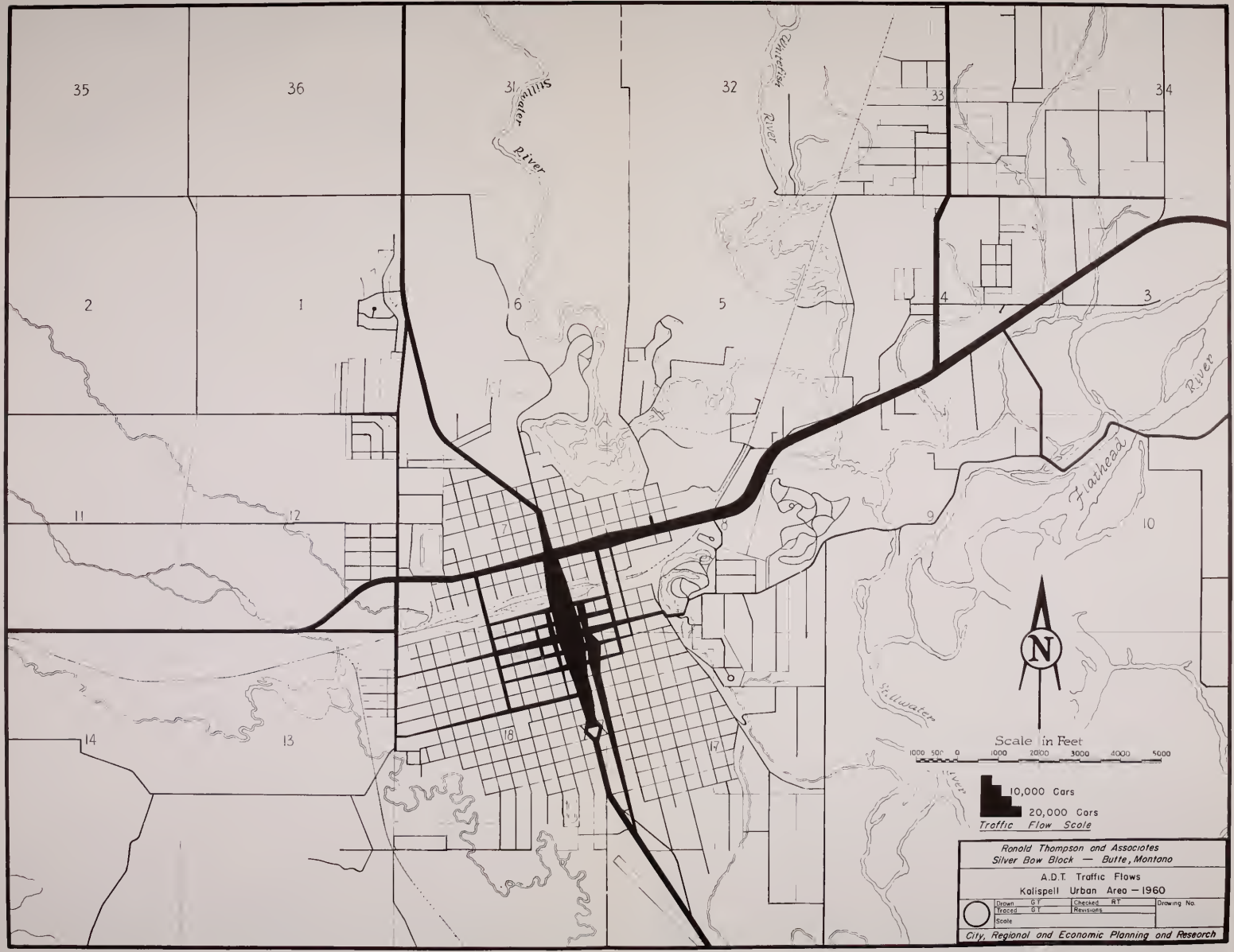
## MAJOR STREETS

The studies of existing land use carried out in this report are intended to ensure a rational pattern of land use throughout the metropolitan area, while the streets or circulation plan reviewed in this section of the report, is intended to provide access or linkage between the existing and future types of land use.

The zoning plan contained in this report proposes a logical placement of the different types of land use, and is designed to anticipate the existing and the projected land requirements of an area. The purpose of land use planning is to reserve space for residential, business and industrial areas and land for the educational, recreational and other needs of the citizens of the metropolitan area. Although such land use patterns provide separate functional types of land use, there is a constant stream of movement between and within them. To make land use planning work, an adequate circulation system over which people and goods can be moved safely, efficiently and rapidly, is essential.

The preparation of a comprehensive plan for major and minor streets requires a careful analysis of all the development factors of the community. These include: transportation requirements; existing streets; origin and destination of traffic; traffic flows; parking space demand and supply; employment; parks; shopping habits; major land uses; all this together with calculated estimates of possible changes in the future.

The area's streets system, then, must be planned to conform with the planned ultimate land use pattern, as well as to promote easy traffic circulation within the community. The pattern that has evolved in the past, of course, must serve as a basis for the future, and there are limited changes that can be made in the existing systems. But by using traffic control devices and by adjusting the original streets design where necessary, traffic flows may be handled more efficiently and re-distributed to comply with traffic desire lines and volumes. For future subdivisions, of course, the streets may be designed from the beginning to accommodate traffic safely and efficiently.


35
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13
18
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Stillwater River
Whitefish River
Flathead River
Stillwater River
N
Scale in Feet
1000 500 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000
10,000 Cars
20,000 Cars
Traffic Flow Scale
Ronald Thompson and Associates
Silver Bow Block — Butte, Montana
A.D.T. Traffic Flows
Kalispell Urban Area — 1960
Drawn GT
Traced GT
Scale
Checked RT
Revisions
Drawing No.
City, Regional and Economic Planning and Research

Existing Traffic

Traffic flows through the Kalispell urban area are complicated by the community's location at the junction of two important highways, U.S. 2 and 93. On an A.D.T. basis, 43% of all traffic entering the urban area was through traffic, or traffic having no origin or destination in the area. In addition to this, 27% of the external traffic approaching Kalispell was bound for the Central Business District. The results of an external origin-destination survey carried out in 1961 are shown later in this section of the Master Plan Report.

Traffic volumes on an A.D.T. basis, are shown on the facing map. The thickness of the line upon the map indicates the amount of traffic.

A study of the facing traffic flow map shows several areas of traffic concentration. Most of these are on the State Highway system where Highway 2 East carries just over 7,000 vehicles per day and Highway 2 West, about 2,000 vehicles per day. Counts on U.S. 93 at the city limits show a daily traffic volume of just under 2,000 vehicles per day to the north of the city and approximately 3,200 per day at the south city limits. Study of the origin-destination survey will, however, prove more valuable than these A.D.T. figures.

The five crossings of the Great Northern Railroad tracks, within the city limits, carry approximately 18,000 vehicles per day. By far the heaviest traveled grade crossing is Main Street with approximately 11,000 vehicles per day, with 5th Avenue West, and 3rd Avenue East, each carrying about 2,000 vehicles per day.

With an expected increase in tourist traffic over the next decade and the possibility of further residential growth in the Northridge Park, Adams and Golf Course neighborhoods, additional track crossing traffic may be expected.

Other relatively heavily traveled streets in the city are 1st Avenue East, with a high flow of 5,000 vehicles per day between 2nd and 3rd Streets; 2nd Street with a minimum of 1,500 vehicles at the outskirts and about 5,000 vehicles downtown, and 1st Avenue West which carries up to 3,000 vehicles per day in the downtown section.

The map of traffic flows presented earlier contains only those traffic flows of importance. An additional two hundred traffic counts on forty minor streets have also been carried out and will be made available to the Board for use in solving local traffic problems.

Origin-Destination

During August, 1961, an external origin-destination survey was carried out in the Kalispell area with the aid of the City Police and the County Sheriff's departments.

The survey consisted of an external cordon upon State routes and an interview of each inbound truck and every tenth automobile.

In addition to the interview at the four check points, trucks were followed by car and a narrative record of through-city movement was recorded by means of tape recorders.

The four interview stations were located at the following points:

Station 1. East of the LaSalle Road intersection with Highway 2 East.

Station 2. West of Lewis's truck stop on Highway 2 West.

Station 3. North of city limits on Highway 93 north.

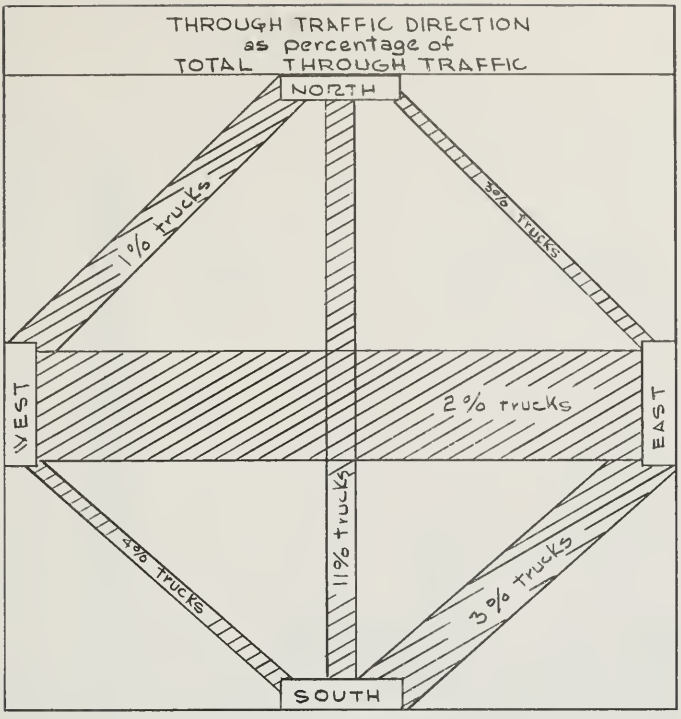
Station 4. South of city limits on Highway 93 south.

On completion of the interviews the questionnaires were collated and the information expanded to a 24 hour base by means of expansion factors. The data derived from this survey is presented in chart form on the following pages.

General O-D Survey

Of all the traffic approaching Kalispell during an average August week day, trucks comprised 4% and 43% was through traffic. Overall patterns of this through traffic are shown overleaf in chart form.

Two points should be borne in mird in study of these through traffic patterns; the first is that the exceptionally high volume of tourist travel during August, presents




EACH BAR REPRESENTS THROUGH TRAFFIC BETWEEN POINTS. WIDTH OF BAR INDICATES ITS PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL THROUGH TRAFFIC.

an appreciably higher percentage of through automobile traffic.

The second point to be considered is that this high volume of seasonal tourist traffic reduces the percentage number of through trucks. When one considers that in a traffic study carried out by the consultant in May, 1961, trucks represented 10% of the total traffic, the effect of tourist travel may be better visualized.

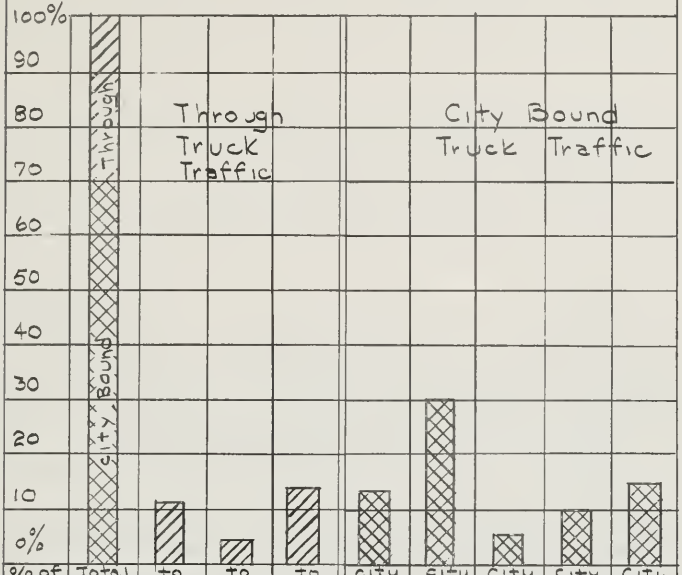
The highest through traffic volumes as shown on the chart above are east-west on Highway 2, with a relatively high volume of through traffic from Stations 1 and 2 to Station 4.

Station 1

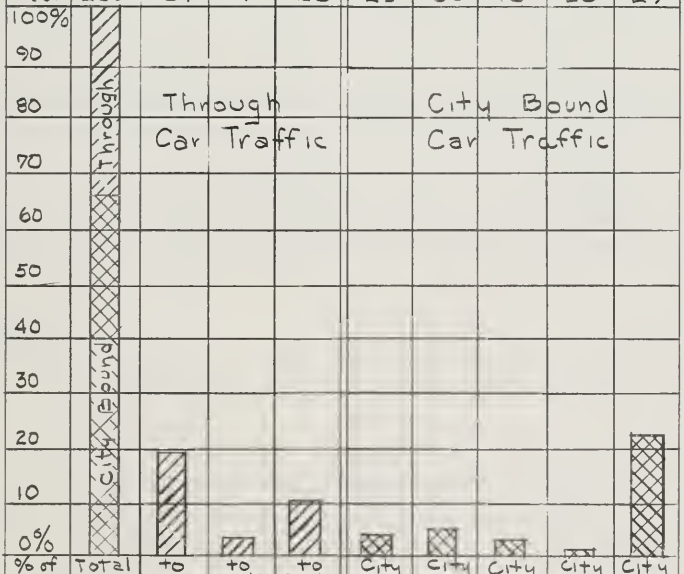
As shown on the destination diagram for this station located east of LaSalle Road on U.S. 2, just over 30% of the inbound traffic had no destination in the urban area. Of the trucks, about 13% of the total was through-bound

# Destination of all vehicles passing Station No. 1

## Typical August weekday 1961




| % of TRUCKS | Total Trucks | to West | to North | to South | City SW | City SE | City NW | City NE | City C.B.D. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| No. | 208 | 24 | 7 | 28 | 25 | 65 | 10 | 20 | 29 |




| % of CARS | Total CARS | to WEST | to North | to South | City SW | City SE | City NW | City NE | City C.B.D |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| No. | 4521 | 875 | 125 | 512 | 195 | 297 | 116 | 59 | 1020 |

STATION 1, Located at XXX U.S.2

to U.S. 93 South, while about 11% kept on U.S. 2 West.

The highest destination sector for trucks was the southeast portion of the city, attracting 30% of the total truck traffic. This area includes the railroad depot and an industrial-commercial area to the south of the tracks.

For automobiles, the highest destination sector was the Central Business District, the destination of approximately 23% of the total inbound automobile traffic. Through patterns for automobiles indicate a 19% through flow to U.S. 2 West and about 11% through flow to the south on U.S. 93.

Station 2

This station, located on Highway 2, to the west of the city limits, had the highest proportion of through traffic of any of the four interview stations. Over 85% of the automobiles and 45% of the trucks, inbound at this point, was through traffic.

For trucks the major pattern of through flow was to the east on Highway 2 with over 33% of all truck travel showing this desire line. Only 10% of the trucks passing this station were through trucks to the south on U.S. 93.

Within the urban area, the most frequently expressed desire line was the northeast sector of the city, with about 27% of the trucks following this pattern.

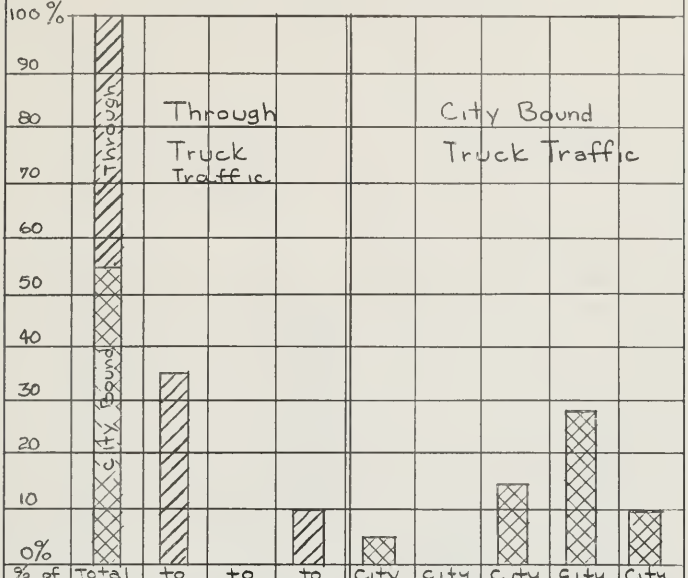
Inbound automobile traffic at this interview station indicated a preponderance of east bound through traffic, with 65% of all automobiles taking this desire line.

Station 3

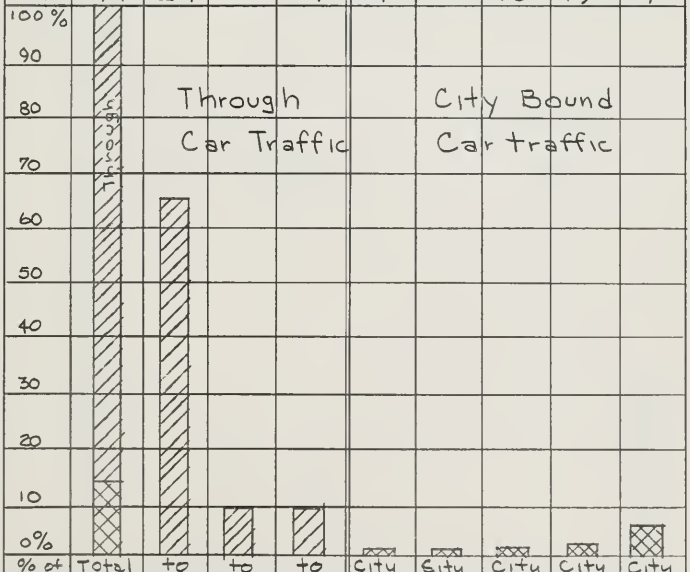
This station was located to the north of the city on U.S. 93.

Over 50% of the total inbound traffic passing this point was through traffic. Through trucks primarily traveled from this station to the south with about 15% turning onto U.S. Highway 2 West. Again, the northeast

# Destination of all vehicles passing Station No. 2
## Typical August weekday 1961




| % of Trucks | Total Trucks | to East | to North | to South | City SW | City SE | City NW | City NE | City C.B.D. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| No. | 71 | 24 | - | 7 | 4 | - | 10 | 19 | 7 |

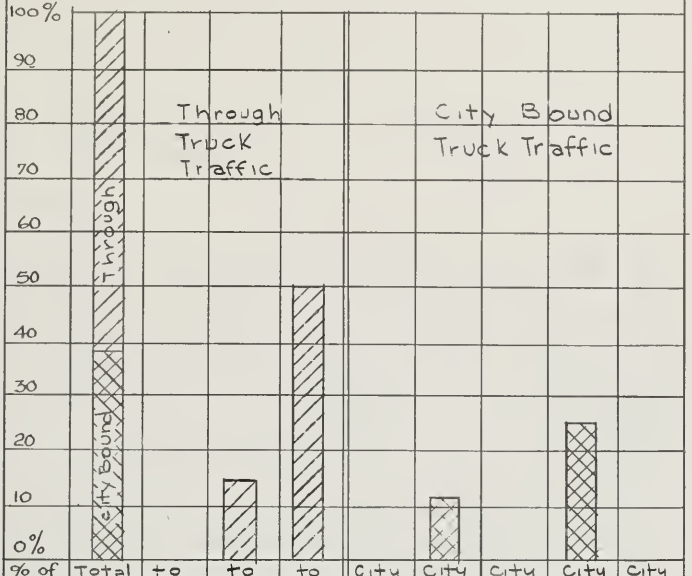



| % of Cars | Total Cars | to East | to North | to South | City SW | City SE | City NW | City NE | City C.B.D. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| No. | 1876 | 1254 | 198 | 165 | 33 | 16 | 33 | 47 | 130 |

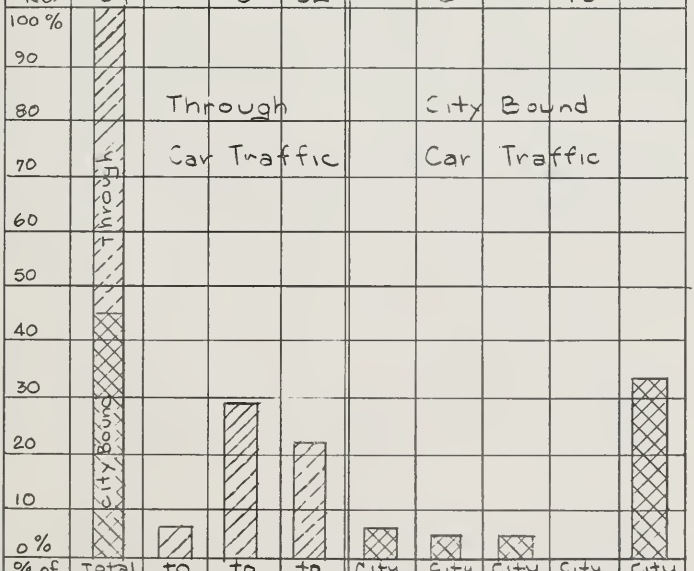
STATION 2. Located at Lewis Truck Stop Highway 2 West

# Destination of all vehicles passing Station No. 3

## Typical August weekday 1961




| % of Trucks | Total Trucks | to East | to West | to South | City SW | City SE | City NW | City NE | City C.B.D. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| No. | 64 | — | 8 | 32 | — | 8 | — | 16 | — |




| % of CARS | Total CARS | to East | to West | to South | City SW | City SE | City NW | City NE | City C.B.D. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| No. | 1440 | 80 | 400 | 320 | 60 | 50 | 50 | — | 480 |

STATION 3 — Located at Tip Top Cafe Highway 93 North

sector of the city was the destination of a high (25%) volume of truck traffic.

Through automobile traffic at this station amounted to 55% of total automobile flow. Of this through automobile flow, the greatest percentage was bound to the west on U.S. 2, with almost as many headed south on U.S. 93.

The only other significant pattern at this station, was an expressed desire line to the central business district amounting to 33% of the automobiles.

Station 4

Located to the south of the city limits on U.S. 93, this station experienced a much lesser volume of through traffic. About 22% of the total inbound traffic at this point was through traffic. Through truck traffic comprised 15% of the total inbound truck flow, although the high volume of internal truck movements to the northwest sector of the city indicates travel to the Kalispell Mill, or an actual through movement to the west.

Automobile traffic showed a 20% pattern through movement to U.S. 2 East and a very high (45%) volume of automobiles to the central business district.

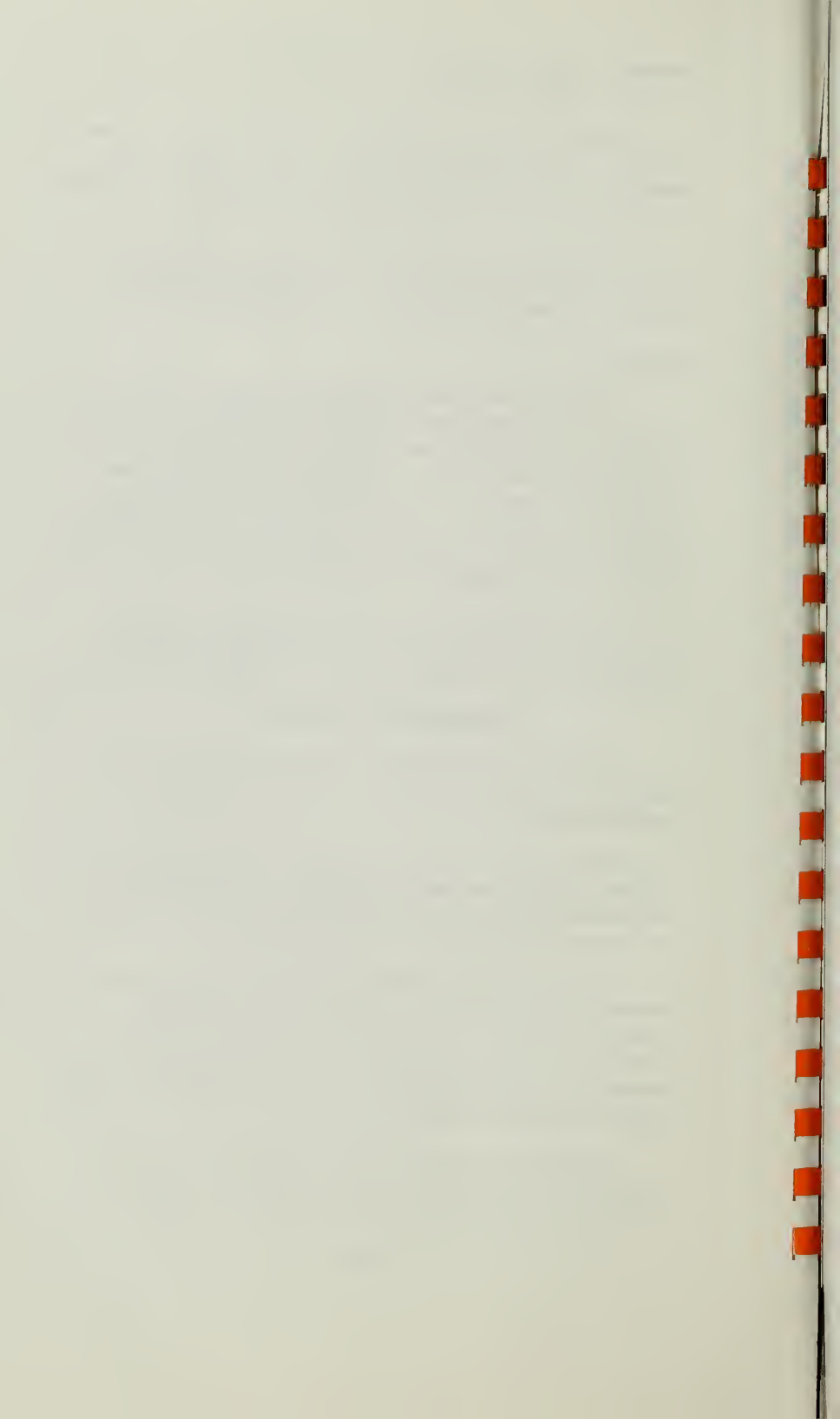
## CONCLUSIONS, O-D SURVEY

A study of inter-station movement indicates the number of vehicles that may be by-passed around the congested urban area.

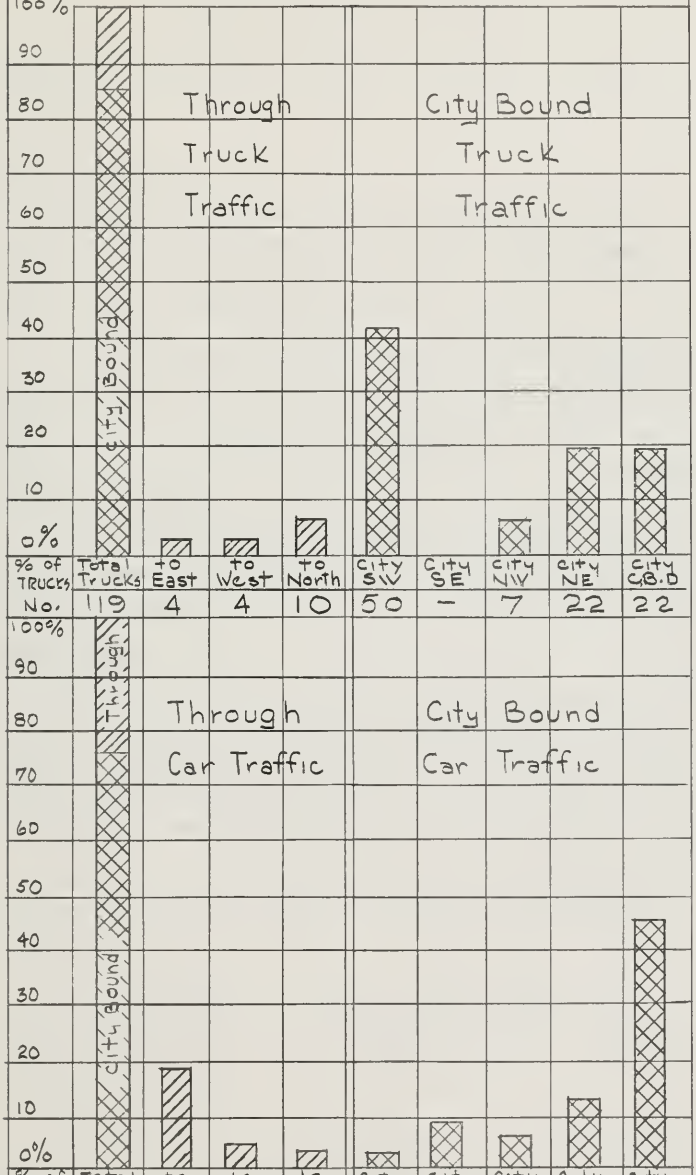
The highest volume of through traffic occurs on U.S. Highway 2 in an east-west direction. This highway is serving well as an arterial and should be able to handle this through traffic with little difficulty.

The next highest volume of through traffic occurs between Station 4 (south of the city) and Station 1 (east of the city). Provision of a by-pass route to serve this desire line could prove of advantage to the community by reducing through traffic on Main Street and easing congestion at Main and Idaho.

In addition to the above mentioned desire lines, a future by-pass route from Station 4 (south of the city) to Station 2 (west of the city) could prove useful in



# Destination of all vehicles passing Station No. 4 Typical August weekday 1961




STATION 4 Located at Hacienda Cafe' Highway 93 South

relieving down-town congestion. This route could serve the Kalispell Mill area and would fit into the possible future development of the old city airport for light industrial use.

## STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS

Whether naturally or by design, most cities have in operation three types of streets: arterial, collector, and minor.

### Arterial Streets

Although few in number, the arterials carry the greatest bulk of traffic, and are the basis of the street plan; they are designed to induce easy and safe distribution of traffic throughout the area.

As the arterial streets are developed and improved, a greater volume of traffic will travel on them, and traffic will be drawn away from residential areas, where maximum safety and quiet are desirable.

### Collector Streets

This type of street carries urban traffic within neighborhoods and also collects and leads traffic to the arterial streets system.

### Minor Streets

Minor streets are intended to handle local traffic within a residential neighborhood and usually are designed to discourage through flows. The layout of this form of street is usually left to the discretion of the subdivider and only minimum regulations required.

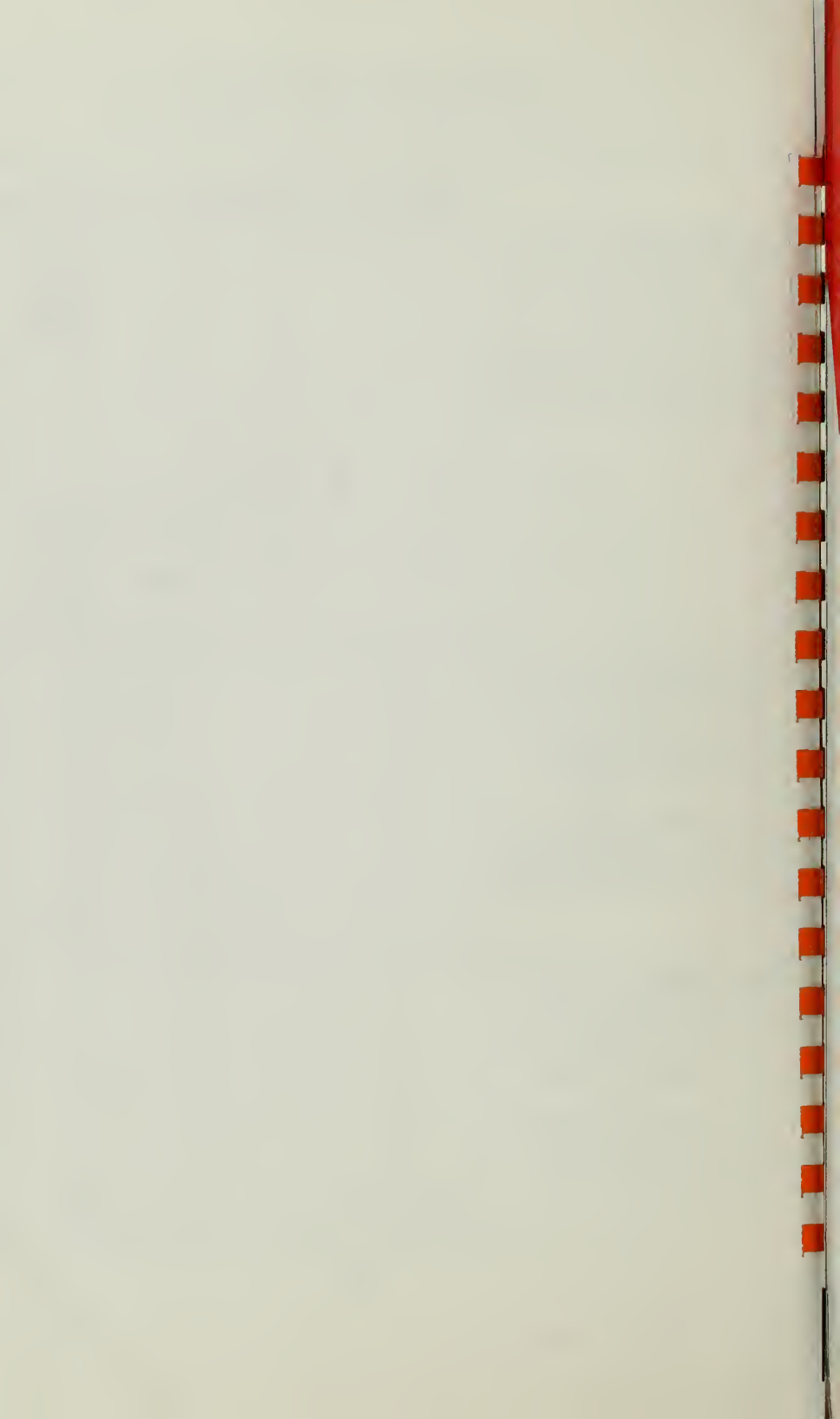
The following page indicates proposed design standards for the major and minor streets within the planning area.

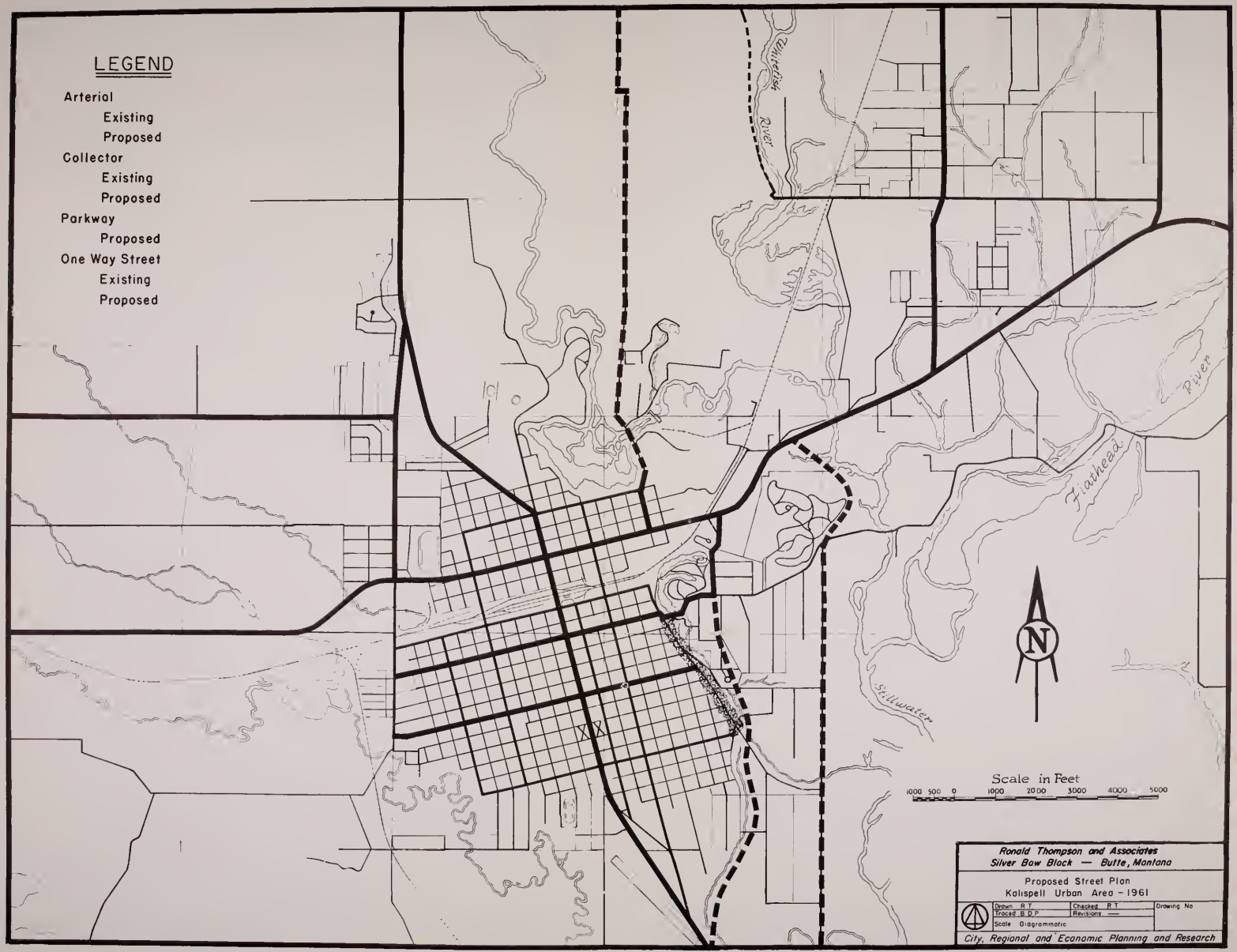
It will be noted that the design standards contained overleaf call for a minimum eighty feet right-of-way for new arterials, with a suggestion that a ninety-six foot right-of-way would be more desirable.

The reasons for these standards are: that although a four-lane arterial may be developed within the confines of a sixty foot right-of-way, there remains little room for the installation of necessary street furniture,

PROPOSED STREET DESIGN STANDARDS
KALISPELL-FLATHEAD CITY-COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

| TYPE | Right-of-way | Paving | Curb and Sidewalk | Boulevard | Setback |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ·ial Streets: Major ts designed to carry a volume. Will act as asic framework of the ughfare Plan. design standards are ded to provide for four g lanes of traffic - n each direction and arallel parking lane on side. | | | | | 40' from C.L. and zone region |
| Existing: | 60' | 48' | 6' (2) | - | |
| Proposed | 80' | 56' | 6' (2) | 6' (2) | zone reg. |
| Desirable | 96' | 56' | 6' (2) | Median 16' | zone reg. |
| ctor Streets: Intended rinciple trafficways n and between neigh- ods. They also pro- the main means of s to arterial street m and to abutting ential property. design standards are ded to provide for oving lanes of traffic - n each direction and arallel parking lane on side. | 60' | 40' | 5' (2) | 5' (2) | zone reg. |
| r Streets: Intended to de access to private erty within neighbor- s. These streets are mited continuity, and ot intended to carry volumes of traffic. design standards are ded to provide two s for relatively slow ng traffic and one llel parking lane on side. | 60' | 36' | 5' (2) | 6' (2) | zone reg. |




LEGEND
Arterial
Existing
Proposed
Collector
Existing
Proposed
Parkway
Proposed
One Way Street
Existing
Proposed
Whitefish River
Flathead River
Stillwater
N
Scale in Feet
1000 500 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000
Ronald Thompson and Associates
Silver Bow Block — Butte, Montana
Proposed Street Plan
Kalispell Urban Area - 1961
Drawn R.T.
Checked R.T.
Traced B.D.P.
Revisions —
Drawing No.
Scale Diagrammatic
City, Regional and Economic Planning and Research

such as fire hydrants, power poles and the like. Four lane construction within the sixty foot right-of-way would also eliminate boulevard space.

The proposed design standards recommends, therefore, a minimum right-of-way of eighty feet for all new arterials and a separate ordinance requiring an additional set-back regulation on all arterial streets within the area. The proposed minimum additional set-back regulation is 40 feet from the center line of the designated arterial and the maximum additional set-back regulation is 48 feet from the center line. Each of these set-backs would be over and above the required zoning set-back, for the district in which the development occurred.

The effect of these suggested street widening regulations would be to prevent construction upon the land immediately abutting an arterial street, thus enabling eventual condemnation of the land strip for road widening purposes. There are possible legal problems in such a procedure, particularly the protest of "condemnation without compensation". The intent of the procedure is clear, although the method of carrying out may need refinement.

Ultimate requirements for the area's street system should be:

1. A loop system of cross-town routes to guide through traffic around the central business district. New streets may be opened, existing radial arteries connected with the loop, or present two-way streets converted into one-way couplets.
2. Traffic loops bounding individual areas. Offset intersections should be eliminated, and key streets widened.
3. An adequate number of streets leading from and to the central business district and other work areas. New streets may be constructed, present ones widened or long one-way couplets established.

It should be possible to execute the streets plan in gradual, distinct stages. In the proposed arterials plan presented on the following map some projects are exceptionally long range. These long range projects should be studied now, and whenever possible, needed right-of-way should be acquired and reserved for ultimate construction. Reservation of this right-of-way may be attained in several ways, ranging from use of the subdivision control powers of the local authorities to complex urban renewal or slum clearance schemes.

## ZONING

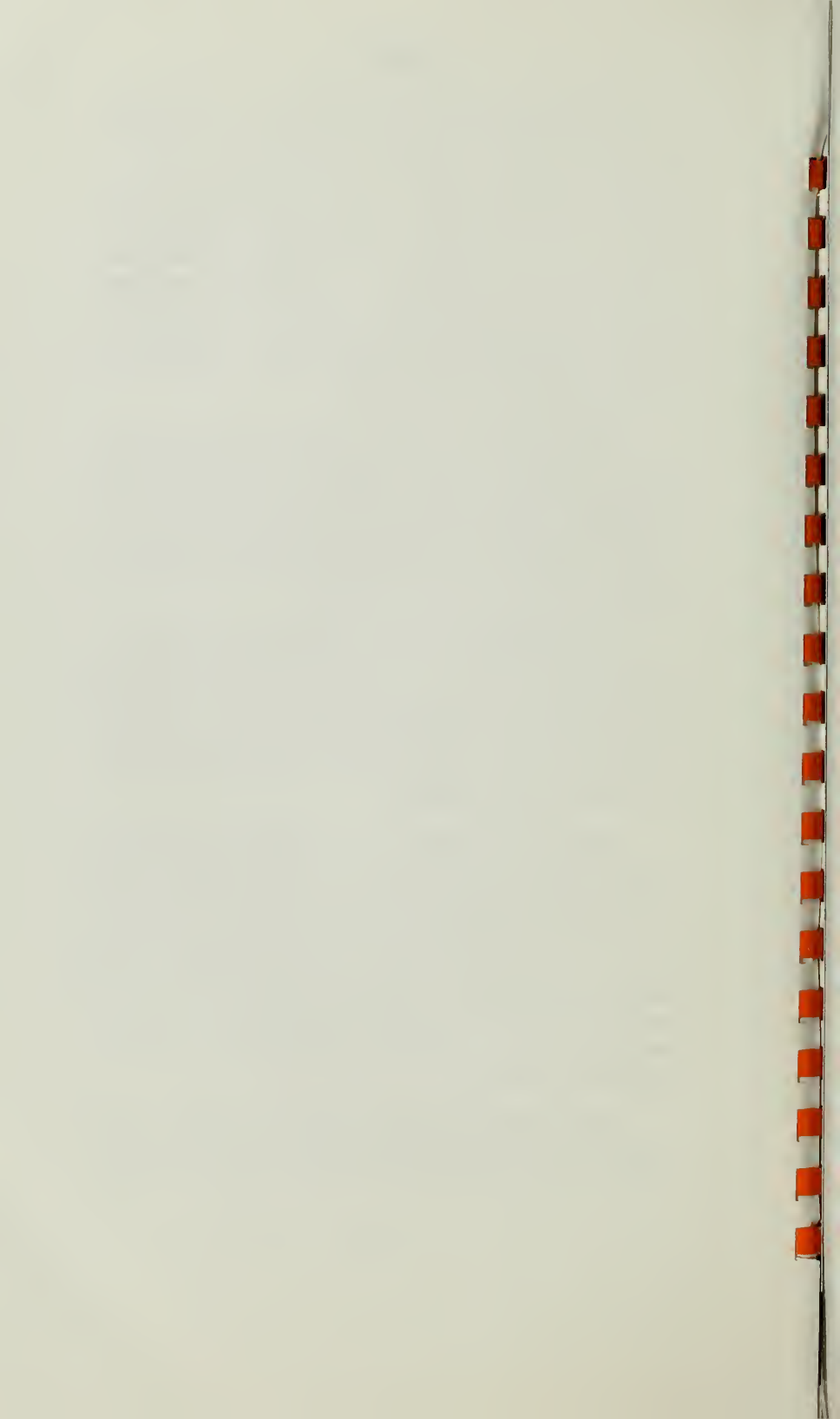
Most cities have adapted naturally to a division into land use districts long before zoning is considered for the area. Each township, from early days, formed itself into loosely grouped areas of land use: the first center of trading grew into the busy commercial business district of today; housing spread from the original center to accommodate the growing population and has been determined in its direction by the geographic formations in the area. In this way the patterns of land use are formed early in the history of each urban area and this division of the land into "uses" becomes a definite part of the future of the growing city.

Urban zoning is a way of assisting the existing division of land use by incorporating "planned division" within the present layout. "Use" means the physical use being made of the land or the purpose for which the land is being occupied: for business; industry; housing; parks; schools; streets; open land; and other categories depending upon the area concerned.

When different uses grow up around each other in haphazard fashion there is invariably loss of values and of amenities. Zoning is concerned with preserving values and amenities by encouraging grouping of uses which are complimentary to each other based upon the special circumstances of the area, and the carefully estimated future needs of the community.

Because each community is individual, with special needs stemming from its location, economy, population and its aims, extensive knowledge of the area is pre-requisite to the early stages of zoning. Detailed information must be assembled on all phases of the area and interpreted for effect upon the needs of the community. From study and consultation a general land use layout is prepared which follows the natural and existing divisions, and is designed to encourage future growth in the most desirable locations.

From the accepted layout a plan is evolved which regulates future growth and assures well balanced use of the land through administration of a zoning ordinance.



It is now generally recognized that some form of regulation of the use of land and property, whether public or private, is as necessary to the welfare and comfort of the people as are regulations of behaviour. Such regulations allow members of a group to recognize accepted standards and so permit personal planning for the future with the assurance of continuing patterns of agreement. Accepted standards act as a form of guarantee that uses which are not suited to the area or are undesirable in any way will not be permitted to devalue existing land and property or adversely affect the community.

Assurance of accepted standards encourages steady, reliable growth and a thriving economy, for by intelligent foresight and planning the citizens can ensure for themselves the kind of community they desire and its continuing growth within the chosen pattern of progress. Desirable advantages to be gained include not only a healthy business climate through planned commercial and industrial development facilities but all the other vital attributes of the present day community: safe movement of traffic over good highways and streets offering smooth, easy circulation for all types of traffic; optimum school facilities for all the present and future youth of the community; parks and playgrounds of adequate size on landscaped, attractive sites; residential areas in surroundings of quiet, beauty and pleasing design, carefully preserved from future deterioration of values by good layout and insistance upon suitable use of adjoining properties.

Zoning is generally not retroactive, and therefore, is of most value as a means of guiding future growth and guarding existing land use for the future.

A proposed zoning ordinance and a suggested set of subdivision regulations for the area are receiving separate study by the planning board and will be the subject of public hearings in the near future. These hearings will be based on the State Law for zoning in cities.

Problems of instituting a zoning program in county areas are detailed overleaf.

Legislation

The status of zoning enabling legislation has been clarified by a recent decision of the Montana Supreme Court.

Initially, Sections 11-3801 through 11-3858, of the Revised Codes of Montana, 1947, enabled Boards of County Commissioners who were represented on a city-county planning board to assume all the powers that a city council possessed, to carry out a zoning program within the "area of jurisdiction" of a city-county planning board.

Previous to the legislation mentioned above, the county commissioners could zone, but only by being petitioned for such zoning by sixty per cent of the free-holders of a district. This legislation, known as the County Planning and Zoning District Law has been used very successfully in Montana.

Questions of the constitutionality of both the above mentioned laws have been raised recently in the courts. In both cases the appropriate District Court ruled that granting powers of zoning to the county commissioners was in violation of the constitution.

Appeals in both cases to the Montana Supreme Court have resulted in the following decisions:

1. City-County Zoning:

   In general terms the method of delegation of zoning powers to the Board of County Commissioners has been found unconstitutional due to the lack of guide lines and controls in the City-County Planning legislation. It would appear, however, that a re-writing of this law, providing adequate guide lines for the Board of County Commissioners, could lead to county zoning.

2. County Zoning Districts

   It was found that the act does not contravene the Montana State Constitution due to the provision of adequate procedural requirements and by the definite areas of power granted.

It would seem that the institution of zoning control in the jurisdictional area must proceed initially on the basis of the County Planning and Zoning Districts legislation, Sections 16-4101 through 16-4107, R.C.M., 1947. By the time of the next legislative session a Bill, providing for the Board of County Commissioners to initiate zoning, should be prepared and introduced. Such a Bill must meet the "guide lines" criteria laid down by the Montana Supreme Court in its recent decision.